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Hafa Adai!

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75¢

Torres 902 panel to back revision of 2016 CW cap

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

One of the recommendations Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and his team will make to federal officials in Washington, D.C. is that immigration officials amend their 2016 cut down on contract workers allowed in the Commonwealth to a reduction of one, from its original cut of 1,000 worker permits, *Saipan Tribune* learned Friday.

Torres

Torres officials believed the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has unilateral authority in their administrative regulations to go back and adjust the cap so long as the cap is below the previous years. They have to reduce the cap to zero by the end of the CW program in 2019 pursuant to federal law. For 2016, US-

See TORRES on Page 4

THOMAS MANGLONA II

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan addresses the 335 newest graduates of Marianas High School during her congratulatory remarks last Thursday on campus.

335 MHS graduates 'on there way'

» Jones, Jastillana lead senior class

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
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CORRESPONDENT

A total of 335 Marianas High School seniors in blue gowns filled the outdoor stage on their campus for the last time as students and the first time as alumni last Thursday. A roaring crowd greeted the graduates of the largest high school in the CNMI.

School principal Cherlyn Cabrera welcomed the graduates, their families, friends, and community members to the ceremony, which was held outdoors after the school's gym was damaged by Typhoon Soudelor.

"You are a gift to the world," she told the students. "Your last year started with the worst storm in recent time. All of you have survived and thrived through un-

See MHS on Page 4

Finance releases $9.9M in tax refunds

The Department of Finance has released its first batch of tax rebates, refunds, child tax, and American opportunity tax credit last Friday, June 3.

According to Secretary of Finance Larrisa Larson, the first batch is comprised of all filers who filed on time and were cleared as of May 28.

She noted that Saipan refunds will be released in the mail, while Tinian and Rota will be released at respective finance offices.

Larson adds that if any issues from prior year tax filings are still pending, this may delay the release of tax checks, and reminds filers to clear those prior year items at their earli-

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INSIDE

NATION
When an active shooter alert spread across the UCLA campus Wednesday, some students found themselves in a frightening predicament.

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WORLD
The Seine River peaked early Saturday around Paris, hitting its highest level in nearly 35 years.

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LIFE & STYLE
Muhammad Ali would almost seem unbelievable if he was created as a work of fiction for a movie script.

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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Local

OAG appeals acquittal of PSS commissioner

The CNMI government is appealing to the CNMI Supreme Court from Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho's order acquitting Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan of a traffic case that charged her with three counts of violating the government vehicle provisions of the Commonwealth Code.

Assistant attorney general Matthew Baisley filed a notice in the Superior Court about the government's appeal to the CNMI Supreme Court.

Baisley is seeking an order from the high court to reverse Camacho's ruling finding Sablan not guilty of the violation of restriction upon use of government vehicles such as driving a government vehicle that does not bear a government license plate, driving an unmarked government vehicle, and operating a government vehicle with tinting on its windows.

In granting Nicholas' motion for judgment of acquittal, Camacho found that the prosecution has failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the car driven by Sablan is a government vehicle as defined in the Traffic Code requiring a lease to be 12 months or more.

Camacho ruled that because the lease agreement was expired, the law no longer requires that the subject car be considered a government vehicle.

"Because the vehicle was

See OAG on Page 4

Tourism Topics

A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority

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Mode Tour and Asiana Airlines Campaign

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To continue to build on the Korea market, the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) is collaborating with Mode Tour and Asiana Airlines on a destination campaign on mobile home shipping channel SYRUP. The campaign was featured in a 60-min. broadcast, in Asiana's in-flight magazine and via Mode Tour's website, SNS and DM channels.

The campaign offers 4-night and 5-day stays and will continue through June 30, 2016. The package includes a Pacific Islands Club (PIC) Gold Card, a Managaha optional tour, a tour of Marpi, Wi-fi router, PIC voucher, room upgrade for packages including two children, and an English class for children. The MVA provided funding for the magazine advertisement, while Asiana provided seat allotments at a special discount price, the participating hotel contributed a special room rate, and Mode Tour also contributed funding.

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BSI pledges assistance to affected employees

Best Sunshine International, Ltd. is hoping for a resolution to the ongoing contract worker crisis brought about by the CW1 worker quota reaching its 12,999 cap for fiscal year 2016.

BSI, one of the largest private sector employers in the CNMI, also acknowledged that its ability to move forward with its $7.1 billion integrated resort project on Saipan would be impacted heavily without access to much-needed workers.

Due to this, BSI pledged to provide necessary assistance to its affected workers whose CW1 visas are to expire this month (June) and to the other CW1 visa holders who are facing a similar threat in the immediate future.

BSI's management team, under the leadership of chief executive officer Mark A. Brown, held a meeting with CW employees with impending visa expirations and employees whose renewal applications did not make the May 5, 2016 CW1 visa cap.

BSI assured the affected contract workers that, if they agree, they will be rehired once their CW1 applications are approved.

Those who still have a few more months remaining before their contract expires were given an option to apply for paroles. BSI underscored the importance that parole application is part of the company's effort in exploring more ways to allow CW employees, if approved, to stay while waiting for the CW1 CNMI-only Transitional Worker petitions to effectuate in October and go into the new cap count.

However, BSI said there is no guarantee that these parole applications will be approved, acknowledging more hardship to the contract workers.

The employees whose contracts are expiring in June are asking for a renegotiation with the company that BSI should pay all CWs affected throughout the completion of their contracts.

Vincent Mascio, BSI senior executive VP of Operations, said, "I will bring up everything you're telling me and relay it to our Hong Kong office. I feel for you. Of course you're upset, and the truth is, you deserve to feel that."

"All I want to do at this point is give you the information you need to know. Because no matter what, after your contract expires, you only have 10 days to leave this island, otherwise you risk future [denial of] CW applications."

He added, "The company's urgent concern is to get you out in time and for us to be able to get you back and rehired by the next cycle of CW applications in October."

Flight arrangements are currently being processed for the safe and timely repatriation of affected workers, majority of which are from the Philippines.

BSI hopes that the forthcoming June 6 Covenant 902 talks between the CNMI and the federal government will bode well for the Commonwealth in light of the contract worker crisis.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres told local media before his departure to the forthcoming 902 talks with President Obama's special representative that one of the crucial issues on the table is "of incredible significance to the people of the CNMI: the current CW situation." ***(PR)***

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CRM board approves 114 more rooms for Grand Mariana

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Regulatory agencies on Wednesday voted to approve the Saipan casino's request to increase the height of its Grand Mariana Casino Resort project by 119 hotel rooms.

The casino estimates the increase to cost $25 million, increasing the total construction cost of their gambling and hotel venue to $190 million.

The permit amendment increases the number of rooms from the previous permitted 254 to a total of 373, and follows earlier approval from the CNMI Zoning Board to raise the height of the casino resort to 14 stories.

According to its request for this permit amendment in April, the casino, Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC, explained the modifications due to "construction related issues and site constraints" that had them raise the foundation pile caps, resulting in increases to the height of their building.

Three beach villas were also removed from the overall plan, according to the April 14 request to the CNMI Division of Coastal Resources Management.

"The primary reason driving this amendment request is business related. [Imperial Pacific] is planning to manage the Grand Mariana Casino and Resort complex, and it is important from a business perspective that additional resort management options are available. With a previously permitted room number of 254, the project fell short of the minimum number of 350 rooms that would make the proposed resort complex attractive to experienced world class hotel and resort management companies," said Imperial Pacific CEO Mark Brown in the April request.

Brown adds that their architects and engineers were tasked to increase their hotel rooms "without altering the basic project footprint" to address their business problem.

The new plans add another corridor of hotel rooms along a planned tower hotel on the "above-grade floors," or from the third to 14th floor.

Original design plans had one wing of rooms with an ocean view but the new plans now has additional 119 rooms with a mountain view, Brown says.

MHS

From Page 1

expected difficulties."

She encouraged the graduates to "go as fast" as they can after graduation. "Go as fast as your legs can carry you, not because I want to see you go, because we will miss you, but because I have faith that today's your launching day, the day that you are launched into your great destiny," she added.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan, Board of Education chair Herman Guerrero, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), PSS key management, Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog, and other dignitaries joined the community in celebrating the students' achievement.

Dr. Sablan explained that the students have inspired the administration to work harder in providing quality public education.

"Whatever way you're headed I wish you the very best. Because of the great minds that you have you really have inspired us to continue to be strong and do the best that we can to provide quality public education," she said.

She noted that 40 percent of the students will pursue higher education at the Northern Marianas College, 31 percent are employed, 25 percent will pursue education in the mainland, and 3 percent will join the armed forces.

Long-time educator, former MHS teacher, and Gold's Gym general manager, Tyce Mister, addressed the students as the keynote speaker.

"When things get rough, you are not alone, even though at times it may feel like it…you have family, friends, teachers, all behind you in your trials and tribulations," he said. "Undoubtedly, you have gone out your way to help someone in need this year," he added, referring to the build-up after Typhoon Soudelor.

He challenged the students to be positive and proactive. "You have everything you need to be successful since its you. The power and light is in you," he said.

In her address, valedictorian Emily Lisa Jones explained that moving to MHS from a small private school was "the best decision of my life."

"This school has given me an abundance of memories and opportunities that I would not have been able to receive anywhere else," she explained. "When you look past the big buildings and somewhat intimidating siren, you find a diverse student body that illustrates brilliance, culture, and talent."

Jones encouraged her peers to seek their passion and pursue it wholeheartedly.

"I am very proud to be a part of such a versatile capable group of young individuals and I hope you use this evening's achievement as the first step in your journey to reaching success," she added.

For her part, salutatorian Lee Ann Jastillana spoke of her perseverance in overcoming adversity throughout her life.

"Failure has always something to be feared but as we exit the campus today we need to understand that failure is necessary to yield success," she fervently told her peers on stage.

She added, "We've all experience how it is like to fail and feel like it is the end of the world, however that ruth of the matter is that failure is not something we should be afraid of. We have all conquered failure. Sitting in cap and gowns ready to graduate is living proof that we have."

"Choose to be optimistic. Choose to be resilient. Choose to be courageous," she urged her classmates.

Jones received the Board of Education Award, while Jastillana was awarded the Commissioner of Education award. Both students were recipients of the inaugural Lt. Governor's academic award.

Student Council president Angela Aninon was presented the Governor's Leadership award for her outstanding service in school and the community. Jose Valdez Rabago Jr. received the Principal's award.

The Top 10 students were recognized as well. Alexandria Vergara was ranked 10, followed by Maria Castro, Jun Young Kim, Angela Aninon, Charlene Lubong, Edna Grace Nisola, Do Hyeon Kwon, Masrur Alam, Lee Ann Jastillana, and Emily Lisa Jones.

The graduates concluded their ceremony with a riveting performance of "We're all in this together" from the movie *High School Musical*. The graduation theme was "We're on Our Way."

FINANCE

From Page 1

est convenience.

In this first batch of refunds and rebates, $4,522,356.66 in Child Tax for the entire CNMI have been released, $126,298.22 in American Opportunity Tax Credit, $4,182,276.69 in refunds/rebates for Saipan, $371,076.81 in refunds/rebates for Tinian, $372,149.58 in refunds/rebates for Rota, and $412,060.04 for the loan programs at the various banks who allowed loans against the tax refund/rebate. This amounts to a total of $9,986,218 released for the first batch of refunds/rebates.

All taxpayers are again asked to allow time for the U.S. Postal Service to sort and distribute the mail by June 13.

As taxpayers clear the pending items on the remaining tax returns, the Department of Finance will continue release of pending refunds/rebates/child tax and American Opportunity Tax Credits.

Please contact the Division of Revenue and Taxation to clear any issues that may be pending for your filing if you don't receive your tax check by Monday, June 13.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and the Department of Finance thank everyone for their continued patience and cooperation for the release of these much anticipated checks. Any and all questions can be answered by the Division of Revenue and Taxation at 664-1000, 1040, 1043, or 1098. ***(PR)***

OAG

From Page 2

no longer a government vehicle, it was no longer required to display government license plate and markings, and removal of tinting material," the judge pointed out.

The vehicle in question is a white four-door 2011 Honda Accord sedan with license plate AEC-621 that is registered to "Joeten Motor Dept." and leased to the Public School System.

The prosecution alleged that the lease of this car began Jan. 1, 2014, and Sablan was stopped by Police Sgt. Anthony Macaranas in Navy Hill on Jan. 15, 2015, so the government is legally the owner of the vehicle.

Assistant attorney general Emily Cohen prosecuted the case.

Camacho said for Sablan to be guilty of operating a government leased vehicle without the necessary government license plate and government markings, and illegal tinting, the government must prove that that the car was leased for 12 months or more.

In this case, Camacho said, the government incorrectly argues that three consecutive lease terms exceed the 12 months or more.

Defense attorney Brien Sers Nicholas is counsel for Sablan. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

TORRES

From Page 1

CIS cut the CW cap by 1,000.

If the recommendation is effected, it would reverse the current cap to allow a number of 13,998 workers in the NMI, from the current 12,999.

This recommendation, among about 10 recommendations to be proposed in the nation's capitol on the immigration issue, have been described as "administrative fixes" that USCIS could agree to ease the adverse effects of it's decision to reject CW petitions received after May 5 and have these rejected workers and their families leave the CNMI no longer than 10 days after their permits expire.

Business and labor groups approximated last Thursday that this decision has affected 1,300 workers—or 15 percent of the total workforce in the day-to-day businesses of the NMI—and would force them to leave the NMI between now and the end of the fiscal year in October.

Notably, the recommendation to amend the 2016 cap reduction was also broached by the NMI Society for Human Resource Management in a "position paper" published in newspapers last week. SHRM recommended that USCIS "reconsider the 2016 cap and revise the drop from the 2015 cap to just 1 instead of 1,000 considering the adverse effect the 1,000 decrease is having on our economy."

The Torres panel is also set to make recommendations, among others, that USCIS show a preference or priority for longtime contract workers in processing permits and to discourage and remove from processing contract worker permits for workers that could be eligible for H-visa categories, which the CNMI sees no cap for, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

Before departing to the nation's capitol last week, officials heavily involved in strategy for the 902 talks with the White House special representative Esther Kia'aina and her team have been finalizing what they call two "position papers"—one for one the CNMI's immigration and labor issue and the other on the issue of proposed U.S. military projects in the NMI—with background information and recommendations presented to the Kia'aina and her panel on these.

These recommendations have been described as the "asks" or what the CNMI wants to hammer out in whatever agreement emerges from these 902 talks.

For his part, Torres said that going into the 902 talks immigration would be "priority."

"…We have critical issues with our labor and immigration. We have families that are being affected. Families that have been here and made these islands home. Families that have grown here, kids that are born here, going to school… Those are our priorities, to make sure we give as much attention as we can. Not just to protect them but a long-term solution," he told reporters in an interview in his office on Capitol Hill on Thursday the day before he left for Washington, D.C.

Torres also downplayed any notions of "give and take" that might occur with the other proposed agenda on the table—U.S. military interests in Pagan and Tinian for live-fire training, saying that he has yet to hear "formally on a request" from the Department of Defense.

When asked to elaborate on a private conservation he had with Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) where the Sablan suggested that the CNMI may have to make some "major comprises," Torres politely declined to elaborate.

But he said that Sablan "asked me some ideas that would see if I like to entertain. "…So I'd rather not say what the request is until have a better understanding as to where do we want to go with the request."

Still, when asked if he though the contract worker issue is tied or would be tied to the military proposals, Torres said, "People tell me 'yes.' People tell me 'no.'"

"For me," he continued, "I know for sure that when we had our immigration that I never heard of anything in the manner of families and workers would be leaving the island, being deported, because they missed the deadline, or because being disapproved.

"These regulations that we have are regulations that we will have to abide whether we like it or not, it's an imposed law," Torres said. "We are trying to meet their rules and regulations and by doing so we are also asking them to give us to the resources." Torres was referring to section 701 of the NMI Covenant on self-government.

"But we need also what we need for self-government and for our economy to run—we need our workforce. Sending our employees with families back home, is not the best way to have our government run successfully," he added.

Man facing jury trial tomorrow tests positive for 'ice'

Francisco Muna Tydingco, a man who, along with his wife, is facing jury trial tomorrow in federal court on charges of harboring two illegal Chinese aliens, was tested presumptive positive for methamphetamine or "ice," plus other pre-trial violations.

As this developed, assistant U.S. attorney Russell H. Lorfing, counsel for the U.S. government, on Thursday moved the federal court to order a four-week continuance of the trial of Francisco Tydingco and Lili Zhang Tydingco.

» Defendant on trial for harboring 2 illegal aliens in exchange for cash

Lorfing said he is not prepared to bring this case to trial tomorrow because of limited time after the recently concluded trial of Jordan M. Jucutan, along with the issues that have arisen with their witness in preparation for trial.

U.S. Probation Officer Specialist Maria C. Cruz on Thursday asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to issue a summons for Francisco Tydingco to appear at an order to show cause hearing to determine whether or not his pre-trial release should be modified or revoked.

Francisco Tydingco was arrested on Dec. 29, 2015 for harboring and was released from custody on Jan. 6, 2016, with many conditions, including drug testing and curfew restriction.

Probation Officer Cruz disclosed that last May 24, Francisco Tydingco appeared for a random drug test at Marianas Counseling Services, and the specimen tested presumptive positive for methamphetamine.

Cruz said upon questioning, Franscisco Tydingco admitted smoking methamphetamine on May 21, and signed an admission form.

Cruz said the defendant also failed to appear for scheduled drug testing on May 23, 28, and 31, 2016.

Francisco Tydingco indicated that he did not call the urinalysis testing line on May 23 because he was busy tending to his sick daughter.

Cruz said the defendant failed to appear for a non-compliance meeting last May 30 and June 1.

A federal grand jury has indicted the couple for allegedly receiving money to harbor two illegal Chinese aliens, including a child they enrolled at a public school.

The indictment charged the Tydingcos with two counts of harboring illegal alien.

According to the indictment, beginning Sept. 28, 2013 and continuing through Feb. 19, 2015, the Tydingcos in reckless disregard of the fact that a minor child had come to and remained in the U.S. in violation of law, "did knowingly and intentionally conceal, harbor, or shield from detection," the child, "in any place, including any building, for the purpose of commercial advantage and private financial gain."

Beginning July 25, 2014 and continuing Oct. 10, 2014, the Tydingcos allegedly did the same offense to conceal, harbor, or shield the child.

According to Homeland Security Investigations Task Force officer Jesse Dubrall, the child's purported uncle stated in an interview that he paid Lili Tydingco $7,000 in exchange for helping him enter into a fake marriage and obtain a green card.

Dubrall said the parents of the child admitted that they agreed to pay Lili Tydingco between $15,000 and $20,000 to take their child to Saipan and get her a green card. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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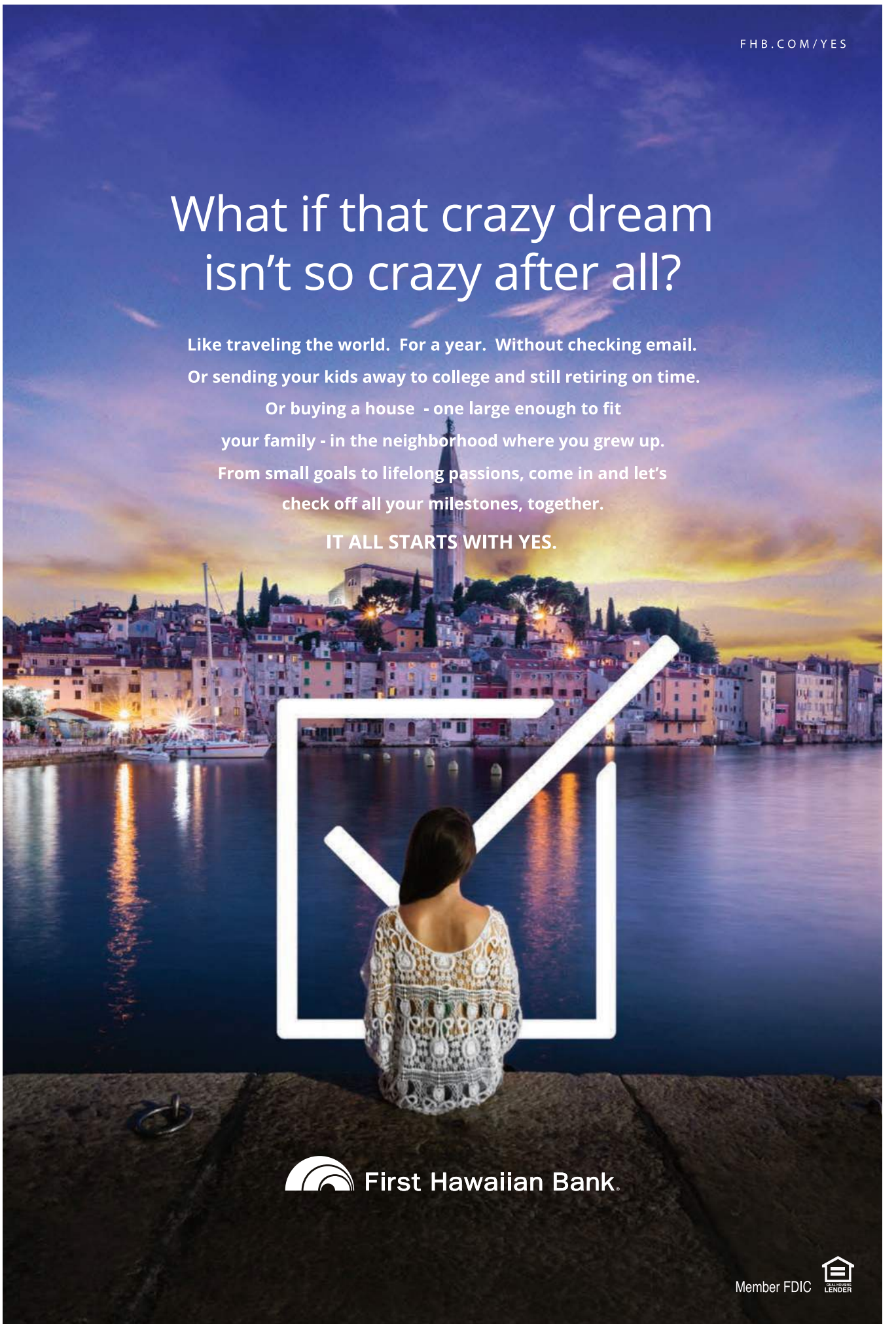
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TRO issued prohibiting Quituguas from blocking use of road

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio has issued a temporary restraining order prohibiting Elbert Quitugua and his mother or other persons from blocking and obstructing the use of Santa Lourdes Road in As Teo.

Kim-Tenorio ordered Elbert Quitugua and Luisa Borja Quitugua and other persons acting in cooperation with them to remove any blockages they have recently placed on the road.

The judge set a hearing for June 22, 2016 at 1:30pm the CNMI government's motion for preliminary injunction against the Quituguas.

In an interview yesterday, Elbert Quitugua said they put a telephone pole not to block the road but to slow down motorists because it's too dusty.

Elbert Quitugua said his mother, who is turning 84 years old in the next few days and is now on a wheelchair, has been fighting for payment of her land for 20 years now.

He said due to accruing interests, the government now owes his mother over $100,000.

Elbert Quitugua said they are waiting from the CNMI Supreme Court's decision in the government's motion to stay Superior Court then-Associate Judge David A. Wiseman's writ of execution order.

» Govt fails to pay Luisa Quitugua for taking property 2 decades ago

He said the Supreme Court heard the matter six to seven months ago, but has no decision yet.

Last May 17, the CNMI government sued the Quituguas for public nuisance, ejectment, and trespass. In addition to the complaint, the government filed a motion for ex parte TRO, motion for preliminary injunction, and notice of hearing to enjoin the Quituguas from impairing the movement of traffic through As Teo Road.

Quitugua

Ex parte motion refers to an application to the court by one of the parties to the action without the other party being present or heard.

In granting the government's ex parte request for TRO, Kim-Tenorio said the government's motion and oral arguments demonstrate a likelihood of success on the merits for the causes of action.

Second, the judge pointed out, the threat of irreparable harm weighs in favor of granting the government's motion.

Kim-Tenorio agreed that the Quituguas' actions significantly impair traffic and increase the risk of collisions.

Specifically, Kim-Tenorio said, she is concerned with access emergency personnel such as ambulance and fire trucks and trash collection.

The judge said while the blockage does not completely prevent access, it significantly impairs or slows access to the neighboring houses, especially for larger vehicles that may be difficult to maneuver.

Kim-Tenorio recognized the potential risk of head on collisions, more so at night when vision may be limited.

Third, she said, the balance of harm weighs in favor of granting the government's motion.

"Here, the potential risk to neighboring residents and potential liability to the Commonwealth is high," she said.

» Elbert Quitugua denies blocking the road; he says pole was intended to slow down motorists due to dust

In the contract, the judge pointed out, the only hardship defendants will face is removing the obstacles.

Fourth, Kim-Tenorio said, public interest weighs in favor of granting TRO.

Kim-Tenorio said the injunction ensures that the neighboring residents are not unduly burdened by the defendants' actions.

She added that it also serves as a notice to defendants and others that self-help and potentially destructive methods of obtaining a judgment are not rewarded or acceptable.

Assistant attorney general Christopher Timmons is counsel for the government in this case.

It was not the first time that the Quituguas blocked the road in front of their houses in As Teo after the government allegedly failed to pay its use of a public road after more than three decades of promises.

In April 2012, upon Luisa Quitugua's decision to shut down a 65-yard gravel portion of the Sta. Lourdes Road in As Teo, Elbert Quitugua put three road bunks and soil to block the road in front of their houses.

Motorists were diverted to use a small entrance of Luisa Quitugua's property

In August 2005, then-Superior Court associate judge Wiseman ordered the government to pay Luisa Quitugua the remaining principal sum of $77,137 plus interest at 3 percent per annum and post judgment at 9 percent per annum in compensation for the two lots consisting of 348 and 364 square meters.

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2002-2011 CR-V
2011-2015 CR-Z
2009-2013 Fit
2013-2014 Fit EV
2010-2014 Insight
2003-2011 Element
2002-2004 Odyssey
2003-2008 Pilot
2006-2014 Ridgeline

Acura
2003 3.2 CL
2003-2006 MDX
2007-2016 RDX
2005-2012 RL
2002-2003 3.2 TL
2009-2014 TL
2013-2016 ILX
2013-2014 ILX Hybrid
2010-2013- ZDX

HONDA

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PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN
PIC SAIPAN ANNOUNCES EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS
PIC Executive Director of SEA, Brad Ruszala works his way up the Climbing Wall.
PIC Executive Director of SEA, Brad Ruszala
PIC Executive Director of Engineering Paul Bea
SAIPAN, Northern Mariana Islands—Hiro Sugie, general manager of Pacific Islands Club Saipan, announced that Brad Ruszala has joined the company as Executive Director of Sports, Entertainment and Activities (SEA).
"Brad will oversee SEA operations, including PIC signature events and Clubmate shows," said Sugie. "Brad's wealth of experience with participating in various sports competitions coupled with a background in communications, brings a tighter focus on high quality guest services," Sugie added.
Originally from the state of New York, Ruszala arrived in Saipan in 2003 to work for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA).
His first paying job was typical of the life in the U.S, which was delivering daily newspapers in the neighborhood. Brad has worked in communications both in print and broadcast media, as a marketing coordinator for a telecommunications company and recently as the public information officer for the NMI government's utility agency.
When asked why he chose the PIC Saipan, Brad said, "This is an established company which I believe is committed to our local community." He added, "I get to work with a diverse team and international hotel guests, which is very exciting."
When Brad's not working or training for a triathlon or marathon, he enjoys spending time with his wife Kathy and their two children, Keoni and Leilani.
Sugie is also pleased to announce the promotion of Paul Bea as the Executive Director of Engineering. "Paul has proven to be an outstanding leader with the Engineering Department, beginning in 2005 as the Powerhouse Manager," said Sugie. "We are excited to promote him to this new role and look forward to his continued contribution to the PIC's success," he added.
Bea's career with the hospitality industry began at the Hotel Mirador in the Philippines, where he was a shift engineer. He worked for the Hotel Nikko Manila Garden and then moved to Saipan to work for its sister company, the Hotel Nikko Saipan, as the engineering senior supervisor.
"I come from a family of accountants; my father is an accountant and several of my siblings followed in his footsteps," said Bea. "I decided to study something else in college, and chose mechanical engineering, which I still enjoy to this day," he added.
As part of a youth mentoring program, Bea takes in high school students to help them understand that there are great opportunities in the engineering field. He offers this advice to every student, "Whatever obstacles come your way, just keep trying, and you will finish the job."

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Matua Riders extends kudos to partners

The Matua Riders Motorcycle Club officers, members, associates, and family would like to express their sincerest appreciation to all individuals, businesses, and community leaders that supported their Fallen Heroes Memorial Day "Freedom Ride" held last May 29.

Aside from Matua guest rider Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, other government officials who graced the Freedom Ride's preliminary event at Minatchom Atdao Pavilion were Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang and personnel; Senate President Francisco Borja (Ind-Tinian) and vice president Arnold Palacios (R-Saipan); and Sens. Jude Hofschneider (R-Saipan), Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan), Sen. Steve Mesngon (R-Rota), and Sen. Justo Quitugua (Ind-Saipan); House Speaker Rafael Demapan (R-Saipan) and vice speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan); and Reps. Ramon Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan), Anthony Benavente (Ind-Saipan), Blas Jonathan Attao (Ind-Saipan), Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan), Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), Roman Benavente (Ind-Saipan), Ed Propst (Ind-Saipan), Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), Felicidad Ogumoro (R-Saipan), and George Camacho (R-Saipan).

The club also would like to thank Yolanda Palacios, Jessica Tomokane, and Colleen Deleon Guerrero for their coordination and all of their support staff; Mariana Resort & Spa, Fiesta Resort & Spa-Saipan, Best Sunshine International/CSR Team, Triple J Five Star Wholesale Food, Pacific Islands Club-Saipan; MARPAC, 670 Rocksteady Shop, Guam Harley-Davidson, MPACT 2 Auto Club, TEAM EXOTIC Auto Club, Café Bike Riders, Power 99, KKMP, KWAW, KSPN2, Saipan Tribune; Nina Aldan, Gus Lutulumar, Gus Kaipat, Pat Romolor, John Aguon, and Nolas Kaliga; Division of Parks and Recreation; Department of Public Safety-Traffic Section and cadets Delbert Pua, Sasha Pangelinan, and Iris Rangamar from the 21st Cycle for volunteering their time to assist with logistics were the donors, contributors, and participants of the event.

"It is through their efforts, generosity, and support that made this year's Freedom Ride—which honors the lives, courage, and legacy of all fallen service members who gave up their lives so we could live free—a memorable and successful event. It is with profound heartfelt appreciation that MRMC extends its humble gratitude to everyone. MRMC could have done it without all of their partners," said the club in a statement.

The club added it would also like to apologize if it has missed anyone but they know who that are and the club is thankful for their assistance. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Matua Riders Motorcycle Club officers and members pose for a group photo after their brief stop at the Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Marpi in last May 29's "Freedom Ride" around the island in commemoration of Memorial Day.

CONGRATULATIONS

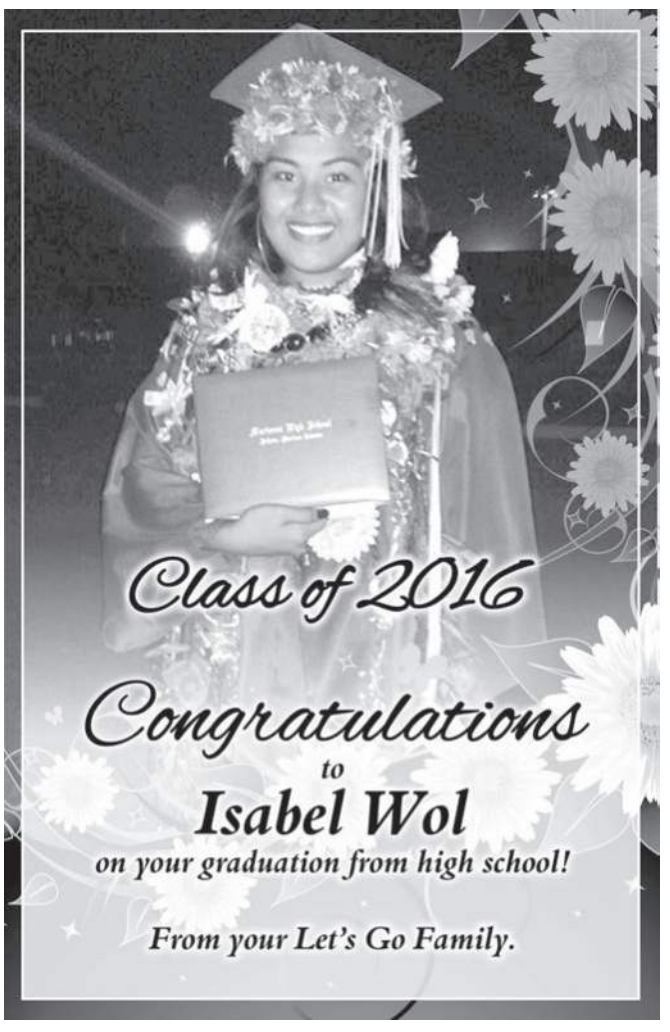
Congratulations to Jennifer Thorie for your promotion from Cha Cha Oceanview Middle School. Greetings from Mom, Dad, Michaelle, and Jarrod.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Belated happy birthday Angelo Valencia who celebrated his 10th birthday last June 4. He had his birthday party last night at the pavilion across the JP Center building in Garapan. Birthday greetings from your family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-015

NMC 1.0 MG WATER TANK REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Northern Marianas College (NMC) 1.0 Million Gallon Water Tank Replacement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists of installation of a new transmission line between the new NMC tank and existing Kannat Tabla tank; removal of existing fiberglass tanks, 1.0 Million Gallon steel tank, yard piping, concrete vaults, and all other appurtenances at the NMC tank site; additional boring, design and construction of the new NMC 1.0 Million Gallon pre-stressed concrete water tank and foundation; installation of new NMC water tank piping, valve vaults, control valves, and other appurtenances; installation of a new booster pump (triplex system) with back-up generator at the NMC tank site; construction of a new chlorination station at the NMC tank site; construction of a new perimeter security fencing and facility lighting at NMC tank site; and restoration of existing asphalt concrete road. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water system. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 420 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **May 31, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-16-015, Northern Marianas College (NMC) 1.0 Million Gallon Water Tank Replacement** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) June 21, 2016,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. *A Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on June 1, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

CUC calls for water conservation

Several areas of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. water system are experiencing less than 24 hours of continuous service daily due to system deficiencies. While CUC continues to prioritize fixing leaks and replacing aging infrastructure, the water supply issues are worsened by the current drought conditions.

One of our major supply sources for example has not been producing water for several weeks. Community members can assist by adopting water conservation measures. Practical steps to take would include: fix all broken or leaking pipes and leaky outdoor faucets, fix leaky toilets, and indoor faucets, reduce plant watering or irrigation, and shut-off water tank fill valve as soon as tank is full, etc. Please continue reporting leaks to the CUC Call Center and all will be attended to as we are able.

CUC would like to extend its appreciation to all in the community for their patience and cooperation as we work together through the current water shortage.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/). ***(PR)***

Joint Education Board meeting today

The University of Guam Board of Regents, the Guam Community College Board of Trustees, and the Guam Education Board will hold a Joint Educational Board meeting today, June 6, 4pm in AV Room #1 of the RFK Library in the Tan Siu Lin Building, UOG campus, Mangilao.

The University of Guam complies with Guam Public Law 24-109 with reference to the provisions and requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. For assistance contact David Okada, UOG EEO Office, Room 106, Iya Hami, at 735-2244 or (TTY) 735-2243. ***(PR)***

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

MARIA DOMINGO:

From LibDay festival volunteer to employee

JON PEREZ

Former volunteer Maria Domingo, left, joins Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, seventh left, and the 2016 Liberation Day committee members in Thursday meeting at the Saipan Mayor's Office conference room.

Maria Domingo signed up as a volunteer in last year's Liberation Day festival as a way to connect with the community. Little did she know that her experience of more than one month of helping the organizers would open a lot of opportunities for her.

"I just wanted to get some connection with the entire community back then. I told myself, 'I've been living on Saipan for seven years, but I haven't connected with the people,'" said Domingo in an interview before the Liberation Day committee's meeting at the Saipan Mayor's Office.

"The Liberation Day is one of the biggest celebrations here where it highlights the celebration of freedom. By way of volunteering and participating in the activities, I could connect with the community, meet new people, and gain more friends," she added.

Now, the Advanced Placement business degree graduate at the Northern Marianas College is a full-time employee at the Skywalker Group under the GreenStay Homes project using the same skills she learned from being a volunteer.

"One task of the volunteers is to promote the festival and let the people know of the various activities. We handed out flyers and we put up posters. It was an enjoyable and unforgettable experience for me, even though we have to deal with the heat of the sun," she said with a laugh.

"I made new friends and learned new skills that made me grow as a person. I feel more confident now with the organizational and communication skills that I learned from being a volunteer that I'm now using in my line of work," added Domingo.

She said that encountering difficult people tested her patience and communication skills. "There are some people that would say no if you asked them if we could put up posters at their store or would be rude to you if you approach them. We learned how to deal with them."

But before being a Skywalker employee, Domingo also helped in organizing the Raise The Roof fundraising event after Typhoon Soudelor hit Saipan last year. "I learned a lot and it open up a great career opportunity for me."

Liberation Day overall chair Christopher Leon Guerrero said Domingo was one of the most active volunteers in last year's festival. "She could do three tasks at the same time."

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Hotel Operations

Chief Concierge	1
Concierge Attendant	3
Front Office Manager	1
Front Office Assistant Manager	2
Front Office Duty Manager - VIP	3
Front Office Duty Manager - Resort	3
Front Office Supervisor - VIP	3
Front Office Supervisor - Resort	3
Front Office Agent - VIP	8
Front Office Agent - Resort	8
Manager - Guest Services Center	1
Manager - Reservation	1
Manager - Horticulture/Floral	1
Floral Designer	1
Floral Processor	3
Gardener	7
Manager - Recreation	1
Manager - Spa	1
Executive Housekeeper	1
Assistant Executive Housekeeper	1
Manager - Public Area	3
Manager - Laundry	1
Manager - Wardrobe	1
Training Manager	1

Finance

Gaming Auditor	6

Food & Beverage

Training Manager	1
Hygiene Manager	1
Restaurant Manager - Employee Dining	1
Restaurant Manager - Northern Chinese Restaurant	1
Restaurant Manager - Cantonese Restaurant	1
Restaurant Manager - Buffet & All Day Casual Dining	1
Restaurant Manager - French Restaurant	1
Restaurant Manager - Grand Lobby Bar	1
Bar Manager	5
Bar Supervisor	5
Bar Server	7
Assistant Restaurant Manager - Chinese	10
Assistant Restaurant Manager - Western	10
VIP F&B Assistant Manager	10
Restaurant Supervisor - Chinese	10
Restaurant Supervisor - Western	10
VIP F&B Supervisor	10
Assistant Manager of Wine Sommelier	2
Bartender	50
Server I	25
Server II	25
Chef de Cuisine - Pastry	1
Chef de Cuisine - Beach Club	1
Chef de Cuisine - Butcher & Live Fish	1
Chef de Cuisine - Cold Kitchen	1
Chef de Cuisine - Buffet & All Day Casual Dining	1
Steward Manager	1

Legal & Compliance

Head of Compliance	1

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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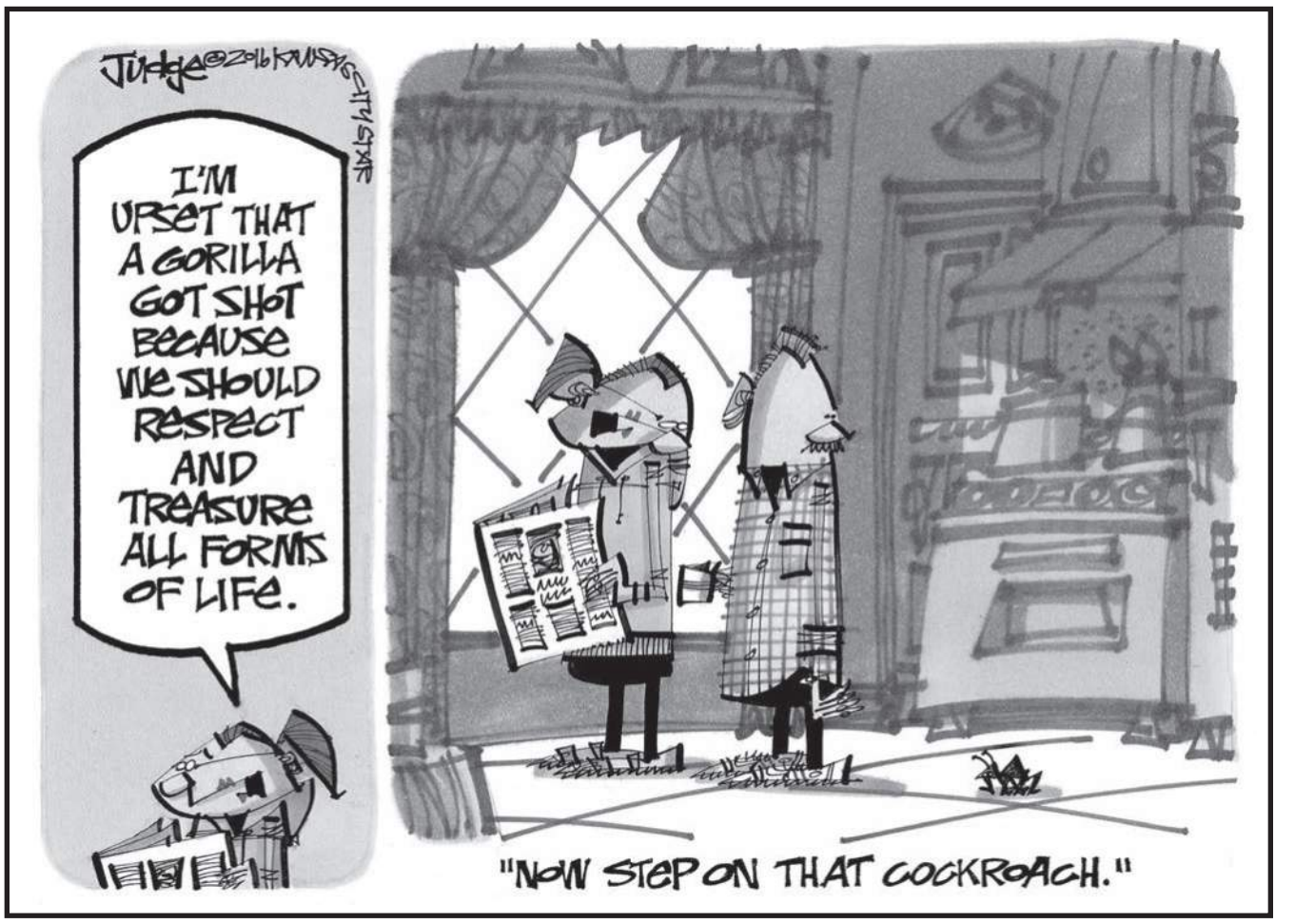


EDITORIAL

Battling the superbugs

"In too many cases antibiotics have stopped working. That means people are dying of simple infections or conditions like TB (tuberculosis), tetanus, sepsis, infections that should not mean a death sentence. If we do nothing about this, there will be a cumulative hit to the world economy of $100 trillion and it is potentially the end of modern medicine as we know it."

—British Prime Minister David Cameron, May 27, 2016

"The end of modern medicine as we know it" is a scary phrase coming from a respected world leader. We hope Cameron is exaggerating for effect, but we also hope his sense of urgency to develop powerful new antibiotics is, well, infectious. Developing more potent antibiotics is vital to vanquish a fast-encroaching army of superbugs, bacteria that have become resistant to current antibiotics.

Recent bad news: The superbugs have invaded America. Researchers discovered a 49-year-old Pennsylvania woman infected by a superbug, a "nightmare bacteria" resistant even to colistin, the antibiotic of last resort. That's the first time this super-resistant strain has appeared in the U.S., although it has occurred sporadically in livestock and people in Europe, China and elsewhere.

How dangerous could this resistance be? Very. "It basically shows us that the end of the road isn't very far away for antibiotics — that we may be in a situation where we have patients in our intensive-care units, or patients getting urinary tract infections for which we do not have antibiotics," Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Director Thomas Frieden warns.

Most Americans don't remember a time before antibiotics. You wouldn't want to live in that world again. Without effective antibiotics, women die in childbirth from sepsis. People who get a scrape or insect bite can develop fatal infections. Sore throats can bring rheumatic fever and heart failure. Surgeries pose greater threats of uncontrolled infection; chemotherapy and transplants grow riskier.

The Obama administration says superbugs pose a national security threat. Left unchecked, superbugs could kill more people than cancer worldwide by 2050, a British task force has warned.

Last March, the White House issued a "national action plan" to combat superbugs. But Washington can't do this alone. What's needed now is an aggressive worldwide response to develop new antibiotics and eradicate indiscriminate use of the current crop. That effort must include major antibiotic users and producers such as India and China.

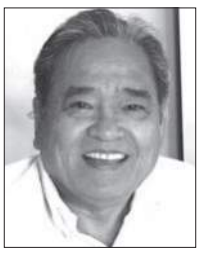
One key: Discouraging doctors and hospitals from dispensing antibiotics without strong cause. Doctors can't cave to patients who demand antibiotics even if they likely won't help. As many as one-third of U.S. prescriptions for antibiotics are inappropriate, a recent study in the Journal of the American Medical Association estimates.

A potential battleground: U.S. farmers and ranchers often use antibiotics not to cure diseases but to promote faster growth of livestock. The European Union has banned such

See SUPERBUGS on Page 11

A Taste of the Marianas

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

It is quite a release from the need to maintain a social face in public to be able to dangle a limp boiled okra over one's head in the privacy of one's kitchen. Never mind that the lengthy okras come all the way from California as the local variety tend to be short, if there are any cultivated that reaches the market.

We are clear that the Taste of the Marianas is anything but local products, though, admittedly, the offered varieties are voraciously consumed locally. Okra among the Ilocano farmers, formerly in construction, or old-timers from the previous era, is a common fare and enjoyed but is not abundantly grown for the market, though the new Chinese farmers try to have more promising produce but are known to use abundant supply of pesticide and insecticide, damn the regulations.

Our farmers' traits are not the subject of our reflection. The food on our table is. Sadly, in many instances, they are not local to the Marianas grounds but are imported from elsewhere. The corn beef and Spam are leftovers from the U.S. military occupation that tinned pork tailings for the Spam.

The four-Saturday spread at the American Memorial Park in May, however, has other benefits other than culinary. For instance, two years ago, I ran into Lino of Finasisu, who discovered that I was the "writer" he read in the newspaper, and would just call me such when I ran into him at the Post Office.

He was flabbergasted on our last run-into at the P. O. when he discovered I was teaching at an island elementary school. He just assumed I was a well-endowed retiree who was doing everyone a favor with "entertaining" (his phrase) accounts in the dailies. That I was financially hassling, at my age, at least, made him glad he is "retired" in the CNMI rolls. Like many others "schooled" in his time, on island and elsewhere among Pacific Islanders is that being on the doll from Uncle Sam was an unabashed goal in life! No shame here.

I am not being condemnatory here. My Dad, a faithful cleric "sacrificing" health and hearth wherever assigned by the Methodist Church in the Philippines lived the life of a pauper in Honolulu, and one time when one of us had a financial crisis, he went to the bank to withdraw his lifetime savings only to be mauled by immigrants of his kind who wanted the benefits of his withdrawal. His dear UMC that he served so faithfully and well did not even bat an eye on his sudden penury, a situation he bewailed more with sadness rather than bitterness.

That is probably why, along with the okra, the ampalaya (bitter melon, amargoso in Spanish that was appropriated in Chamorro) comes next as a favorite Ilocano vegetable. We were taught not only to live with but also to relish the gift of bitterness, a trait that contributed to the resilience of the race wherever they went in the planet. Also, it turned out two decades ago that Vietnamese in SoCal who had the veggie in their diet had low incidences of leukemia. Racially, African-Americans have low incidences of the cancer tissues, a piece of data that figures prominently in current research.

I've playfully referred to the increasing size of the cheeks on our faces and bottoms, both a genetic and diet propensity. While living in the Marshall Islands in the '80s, it became clear that the two items of refined sugar and high-grade spirits, even the ordinary brew of beer when consumed in excess, was anathema to the Pacific Islanders' physique. Of course, we also inherited Europe's prescription of magic and fantasy to replace superstition in religion to entice our fancy, so getting high on anything was of a high premium. It was fun to get our heads up in the sky, especially during holidays.

The consumption of methamphetamine in the Marianas is considerably high, and the new opiate, fentanyl, 50 times more powerful than the ordinary opium, prescribed by medical practitioners for certain conditions, is a rising cause of abuse among illicit drug users.

Food on our tables is our focus, and the Taste of the Marianas, an annual celebration now in our societal calendars, is just as good an occasion to huddle with neighbors and welcome visitors on the tail end of spring. (Funny to refer to the four seasons when we are virtually "summer" all year round!)

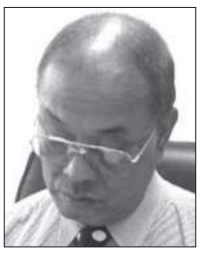
My students at our school cafeteria hardly touch their greens when served their lunch. Already, a few of the 7-year-olds exhibit body sizes that will delight the tailors for size of girth and butt. The school snacks do favor Fresh Gourmet's dried fruit blend, Rice Krispies' chewy apple cinnamon granola bar, Keebler's animal cracker, added to my Teacher week's chocolates that add frequency to our lagoon pathway visits more than usual.

Interestingly, China noticed an increase in obesity and overweight among its population and advised a cut down on consumption. Guess who the vehement objectors are? Yup, European and United States' providers of beef and pork.

Sadly, it is too late for the Taste of the Marianas.

Can't have your cake…

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

The 902 entourage is headed to Washington to meet with Obama's special representative Esther Kia`aina, assistant secretary for insular affairs, Department of Interior.

Firstly, the delegation comprises half the NMI population and so Kia`aina, who's probably scheduled to visit the NMI next week, would wait for the gals and guys from the islands. She's probably quizzing why the entire NMI population? Isn't the NMI sputtering in bankruptcy?

Secondly, the issue on immigration has been in the books since 2009. Did we ever plan for the eventual closure of the CW program? Deja vu, people: Did you review relevant materials before your hop on a junket across the Pacific? Did you bring at least a seven-year plan to show DC a specific agenda addressing this and other related issues? Or is the appeal the usual mea culpa for failing to plan? Why blame USCIS for the NMI's self-inflicted inadequacy?

Kilili's plan to introduce a measure on this matter would disappear right smack in a presidential election year that has picked up vicious steam. Plus, it would be hard persuading a Republican-controlled U.S. Congress to assist when it is ready to destroy Obama's deceptively implemented amnesty on immigration granting millions of illegals entry into the country. Furthermore, a federal court has halted Mr. O's program where the Department of Justice lawyers were caught with their pants down.

The entourage comprises of the likes of highly esteemed and inarticulate Senator Arnold Palacios as Torres' second in command. Could he get his thought process and syntax in place before the meeting? Didn't he champion exemption of Best Sunshine from zoning legal requirements then turn around asking, as though ignorant, if the basic infrastructure could support it? I think the term, sir, is "planning" which triggers some sense of organization that has escaped your nimble mind.

The strategy is a junket trip to show off self-inflicted inadequacies and the fostering of a beggar's benchmark to cover for our lack of vision and inability to plan for our needs. Despicable! Wouldn't skype conferencing work equally well with far less expenses against taxpayers here? I know that disorientation is the forte of this administration, but need we display it at the nation's capital?

We've failed fiduciary duty on self-government. Yet we have the audacity to speak as though the NMI is independent. We like American Dollar but told Uncle Sam no divert airfield and other military requirements here. Isn't there room for reciprocity as part of the US? Nah! Can't have your cake and eat it too!

Beyond accolades

One of the most significance issues that prompted the formation of the 902 Talks was the joint review of future multi-year financial assistance for the NMI per Section 701. Is there a plan by the 902 Entourage on this matter before it left for DC last week? What's in this package? How come it was never openly discussed with all key players?

Are you aware that the Obama administration is issuing over 20,000 new "midnight" regulations each of which is as strong as laws approved by the U.S. Congress? Have you done your homework on this score? Is it something you could share with key players? Did you even ask our non-voting delegate for assistance on this matter? Isn't it important that you are conversant of the impending regulations? Or are you royally clueless?

Are you aware of the Tenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that mirrors your responsibility? It's designed for you to review and select which federal policies are made applicable or inapplicable in the NMI. It limits federal overreach that could compromise self-government of the islands. Or do you even have an inkling of what this provision says?

It seems that once more the NMI boasts of its ability to go to the table completely inadequate and far less conversant of

See CAKE on Page 13

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I am who I am

When I committed myself to advocating for the guest workers of CNMI, I promised myself that I will do it wholeheartedly and with eyes wide open that other people will not like what I write or say. After all, people have differing opinions regardless of issue. We can never have the same belief and opinion over the same issue. What is important to me is that I took a stand on an issue that was close to my heart then and even up to today. No bullshit. I cried the other day just thinking what will happen to the guest workers and how scared they must have been these days not knowing what the future holds for them.

I stand for guest workers who deserve to have a secured employment status regardless of where they are. When I asked for permanent or improved status for the CNMI guest workers, I asked on behalf of those who are deserving and not just across the board. I believe in fairness and asking for what is only fair. When I say deserving, I mean those guest workers who have been here for a long time and whose lives have been built here with their families. These guest workers have U.S. citizen children who are either serving in the U.S. military or require medical assistance. They have been employed with legal status for at least 10 years and who are productive partners in building the economy of CNMI. They are good people with no criminal record.

Understand that I will not even benefit from what I am doing because I am no longer a CW but isn't it that Martin Luther King once said, "There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe nor politic nor popular, but he must take it because his conscience tells him it is right." Understand also that I have respect for the local government because I believe that they will do their best to protect the interest of CNMI.

Let's be realistic. The effect of the temporary status of guest workers brought about the temporary closure of some business establishments which of course had a negative impact on both the investors and the government. And now that the CW cap is already reached, the guest workers who represent a big percentage of CNMI labor pool and also the investors are put in unstable and scary position again

I continue to pray that those long-term guest workers will be given permanent status so they can continue to stay here with their families. I also pray that they will make the CW cap realistic which is based on the actual and foreseeable need of CNMI or better yet, no cap at all. Believe it or not, I also pray that CNMI will be able to train the local people so one day they can fill the need and there will be no need for guest workers. Unfortunately, that day is not today.

Irene Nepomuceno
Puerto Rico

Charting the Marianas' political future

Independence, statehood, and free association are the options that will be made available to Guam voters in an upcoming non-binding political status plebiscite to be held sometime within the next couple of years. Each selection has its strengths and challenges, but it is a good thing that a non-binding political status vote is finally going to take place. As the education campaign moves along in Guam, questions should also be asked about the political future of the Mariana Islands chain.

For example, is it correct to assume that Chamorros from Guam and residents from Guam are the only ones in the Mariana Islands who desire to move forward on matters of political status? Is it correct to assume that the commonwealth arrangement between the Northern Mariana Islands and the U.S. government is satisfactory as a 21st century political arrangement? Is it correct to assume that matters of political status for one island should be separated from matters of political reunification of the entire island chain?

These questions are being posed for consideration because while political status change is important for Guam, the separate idea of political reunification of the Mariana Islands and a political status selection of the Mariana Islands is also important because the island chain is one island chain, not two.

Having a plebiscite held throughout the Mariana Islands on the topics of political reunification and political status change may make more sense. For starters, political reunification of the Marianas will finally bring together a people that have been and continue to be geographically united, linguistically united, historically united, and culturally united on most fronts, but were separated politically by outside powers back in the late 19th century.

With a second American military transformation presumably coming to the Mariana Islands in the near future, it makes sense for Chamorros and islanders to consider holding discussions that include a dual track approach of political reunification and political status change.

If the Mariana Islands united politically, islanders would then be able to establish a stronger negotiating position with real political power when it comes dealing with the United States, Japan, and various nations located throughout the Asia Pacific region. This is not the case presently.

Rick Perez
Via email

We need to move forward

Delegate Kilili and Gov. Torres want a 10-year extension of the CW program plus increasing the current CW cap to 18,000. Yet our unemployed locals of nearly 10,000 are not being address.

Not once did Torres or Kilili even mentioned that let's take care of our people first who are jobless. I guess they are thinking that those10,000 unemployed are in good hands (Food stamp, supplemental security income, etc..).

In my opinion, members of the Saipan Chambers of Commerce and most businesses do not work with the federal and local program such as the Workforce Investment Agency and the CNMI employment services. Statistics I gathered from WIA is that less than 10 percent from the businesses utilize the WIA program or referrals being made by the agencies are ignored by the businesses. And the sad part is our local leaders (Torres, Kilili and most members of the Senate and House) do nothing to protect our people.

When U.S. Congress introduced and passed U.S Public Law 110-229 in 2008, businesses were given five years to hire and or train our locals but they have failed to do their part. By early part of 2014 Kilili urged USCIS for an extension for another five years which is due to expire on Dec. 31, 2019. That's two years and six months from now. Now Kilili and Torres are proposing to ask for an increase of the current cap for CWs to an extension of 10 more years, that will make U.S. PL 110-229, ueseless and ignored. If the CNMI is granted with their request that will be a total of 20 years that our people will be ignored and the unemployment numbers will double.

How long does it take to train an individual(s)? Three to six months for non-critical jobs and skilled jobs six to 12 months, tops. So please members of the SCC and non-members, give the kocals the opportunity to learn. I challenge all of our elected leaders from the Torres administration, Washington delegate, and members of both House and Senate to urge and encourage the business community to hire local U.S. citizens. No more excuses please!

Total of 10 years to implement U.S. PL 110-229 is way than enough. Our people are not dumb. It's the minimum wage that we should fight for our people. Please no more feasibility study. We need to move forward. *Biba Taotao Marianas.*

Joseph M. Palacios
Via email

SUPERBUGS

From Page 10

use, and the White House plan to combat superbugs sets a five-year goal to "eliminate medically important antibiotics for growth in food-producing animals." Food retailers such as McDonald's also are moving in this direction. "I don't care how fat your chicken is, if the result is you breed (superbugs) and people die as a result," Laurie Garrett of the Council on Foreign Relations tells us.

Another idea: Create incentives for drug companies to develop potent next-generation antibiotics. That British task force recommends rewards of up to $1.5 billion. Such incentives could pay huge dividends. Encouraging companies makes sense not only because hurry-up research would be especially expensive and the likelihood of success highly uncertain. Any new drugs will be used sparingly so that patients don't develop resistance. That will cut potential sales but increase health worldwide.

Sounds like a great project for a major charitable foundation looking to save lives worldwide and, in the bargain, build a legacy as superbug slayers.

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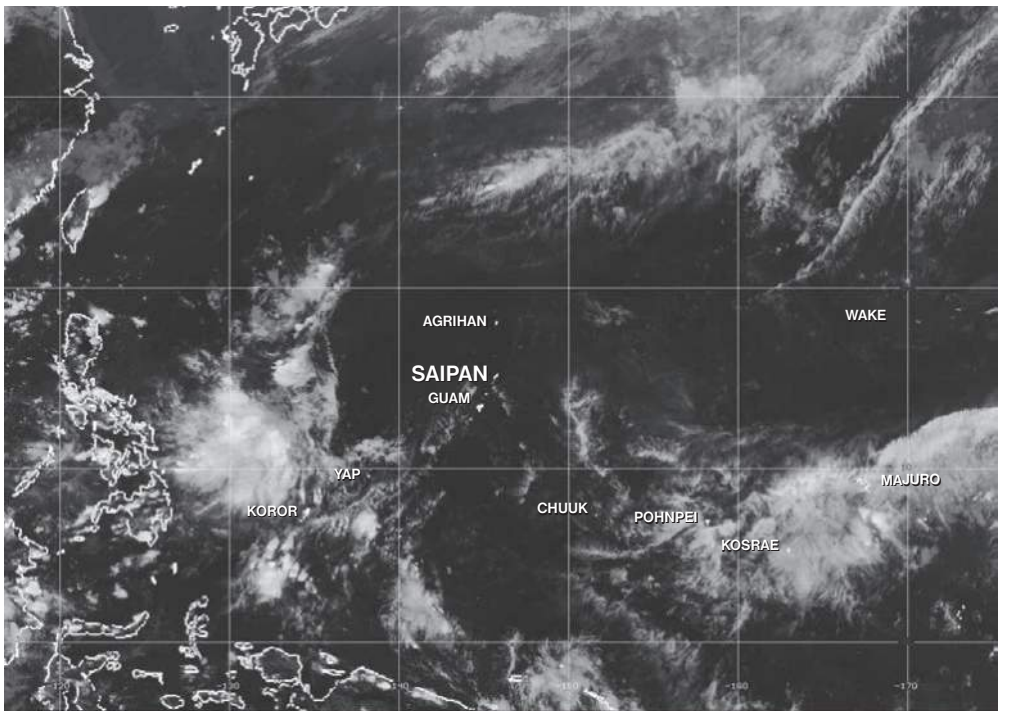
The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:56 PM, SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper-level trough reaches northeastward from south of Koror at EQ132E through a low centered west of Guam near 13N140E to end south of Iwo To Island at 22N141E. These features are triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Koror within 90 miles of 4N133E and well south of Yap within 60 miles of a line from 4N140E to EQ142E. Similar weather is also found north of both places within 130 miles of a line from 10N131E to 21N137E. A trade-wind disturbance is causing widely scattered showers near Pohnpei within 90 miles of a line from 7N156E to 1N161E. Converging trade winds are producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over Kosrae and the Marshall Islands within 95 miles of a line from 5N162E to 10N174E to 4N180.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼81
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼78
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲92	▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼77
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼79
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼80

Around the Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲61	▼55
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲90	▼66
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲88	▼81
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼72
London	Sunny	▲76	▼53
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲79	▼59
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼77
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼50
Miami	Thundershowers	▲89	▼80
New York	Thunderstorms	▲72	▼68
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	▲83	▼69
Paris	Thundershowers	▲77	▼60
Pusan	Showers	▲72	▼63
Rome	Sunny	▲80	▼63
Salem	Sunny	▲97	▼61
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼53
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼64
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲77	▼65
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲85	▼68

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides

Saipan Harbor

3:24 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
8:27 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
3:46 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.6 Feet
10:42 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:46 AM	6:46 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:40 AM	7:52 PM
Tuesday	7:39 AM	8:49 PM
Wednesday	8:38 AM	9:42 PM
Thursday	9:34 AM	10:31 PM
Friday	10:28 AM	11:16 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2922/193	8:40am	10:35pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA2921/191	1:30pm	8:55am+1	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR
UA2920/191	2:20pm	8:55am+1	2, 6 via GUM
UA2928/191	6:05pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2920	9:45pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM-Rota
UA192/2927	9:45pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2929	9:45pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2920	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	11:30pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2929	11:30pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2921	9:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA116/2920	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA116/2927	9:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2929	9:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

US LABOR ANNOUNCES:

$10.4M in grants to expand, expedite apprenticeships

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Department of Labor today announced the award of $10.4 million in Apprenticeship USA State Accelerator Grants to expand and expedite registered apprenticeship programs nationwide.

The grants – awarded to 51 states and territories, and the District of Columbia – are part of $90 million in funding announced in April to expand apprenticeship in the U.S. The recipients announced today will each receive $200,000 to help integrate apprenticeship into their education and workforce systems; engage industry and other partners to expand apprenticeship to new sectors and new populations at scale; conduct outreach and work with employers to start new programs; promote greater inclusion and diversity in apprenticeship, and implement state incentives and system reforms.

"There is a bright future for apprenticeship in America," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez in announcing the grants during a visit to Milwaukee Area Technical College today. "The investments that we're making today and in the weeks and months to come are about giving apprenticeship the greater stature it deserves, helping more employers get the talent they need and helping more workers punch their ticket to the middle class."

These grants are part of ApprenticeshipUSA, the department's coordinated effort with industry and education leaders, nonprofits, and local governments to highlight the benefits of apprenticeship and expand the use of this time-tested, earn-while-you-learn model.

In the coming weeks, the department will announce the availability of an additional $50 million in State Expansion Grants for those looking to expand their capacity to collaborate with employers and start new apprenticeship programs across diverse industries and communities.

These investments are part of a historic bipartisan Congressional effort to appropriate funds specifically for apprenticeship for the first time, and align with President Obama's bold challenge to double and diversify the number of apprenticeships by 2019.

Apprenticeships are a proven path to high quality, secure middle-class jobs. In fact, 87 percent of apprentices are employed after completing their programs, with an average starting wage above $50,000 per year. The return on investment for employers is substantial, as studies indicate that for every dollar spent on apprenticeship, employers receive average of $1.47 return in increased productivity, reduced waste and greater front-line innovation.

For more information on the department's efforts to expand apprenticeship, visit www.dol.gov/apprenticeship. ***(PR)***

FOR SY 2015-2016

ESFDB Principal's List and Honor Roll

Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja congratulates the following students for making it to the end of the School Year 2015-2016 Principal's List and Honor Roll. ***(Note: Students are listed in alphabetical order according to their last names)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja students are recognized for their accomplishments.

PRINCIPAL'S LIST

2ND GRADE
- Maratita, Edward U. III

3RD GRADE
- Tobongbanua, John Anthony

4TH GRADE
- Mahusay, MJ
- Manuel, SonJoe S.
- Reyel, Brylle Angelo P.

5TH GRADE
- Balgoa, Kaitlyn Amber P.
- Cantil, Michael Jon T.
- Clitar, John Kent DIC.

7TH GRADE
- Atalig, Jeremy John II
- Clitar, Marvin DIC.

8TH GRADE
- Lucero, Angelo S.

"A" HONOR

1ST GRADE
- Atalig, Brynn Annalise SN.
- Atalig, Damian "J" H.
- Tacud, Katrina Shayne V.

4TH GRADE
- Hocog, Autumn Pasensia T.

6TH GRADE
- Atalig, Cyrus Vidal
- Guiawan, Auston Marvin E.

"B" HONOR

1ST GRADE
- Manglona, Cadence

2ND GRADE
- Hocog, Edward Marco B.
- Tacud, John Henry

3RD GRADE
- Hocog, Titus Hugh T.

5TH GRADE
- Atalig, Landen Drake C. ***(PR)***

Military to conduct training at FDM, W-516

ASAN, Guam (June 3, 2016) – The Air Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- June 6 from 10am to 4pm.
- June 7 and 10 from 10am to 7pm.
- June 9 from 10am to 6pm.

The Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 June 6-9 from noon to 10pm.

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides frequent access that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon provides sufficient room for the many different attack profiles necessary to replicate training opportunities in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

W-517 is activated south of latitude 12° 40' 00"N. All vessels are advised to remain clear of W-517 south of latitude 12° 40' 00»N. Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank are open for public use. W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises. W-517 is contained within the following coordinates: 13° 10»N/144° 30»E, 13° 10»N/144° 42»E, 12° 50»N/144° 45»E, 11° 00»N/144° 45»E, 11° 00»N/143° 00»E, 11° 45»N/143° 00»E, 12° 50»N/144° 30»E.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-4055. ***(PR)***

Support for emergency response capacity in Vanuatu

PORT VILA, Vanuatu—Vanuatu's ability to respond more effectively to disasters has been bolstered today with the handing over of three emergency boats, two vehicles and a flatbed truck.

The timely gesture to support response and relief following disasters, like Cyclone Pam, has been made possible through the European Union's EUR 19.37 million Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific Project (BSRP), implemented by the Pacific Community (SPC).

European Union Ambassador to Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, H.E. Leonidas Tezapsidis, presented the heavy haulage flatbed truck, boats and vehicles to Lieutenant Colonel Acting Commander, Terry Tulang, of the Vanuatu Mobile Force (VMF), the Director of the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), Shadrack Welegtabit, and the Director-General of the Ministry of Climate Change, Jesse Benjamin, in the capital, Port Vila.

These items will be used to conduct assessments, transport relief items, evacuate people during emergencies and provide troop transport for first responders following future disaster events.

These critical items serve to strengthen the relationship and coordination between the country's Fire Service, the VMF and the NDMO.

They will be used to support emergency preparation and response, for example, to move personnel, transport relief, distribute critical supplies and improve access to outer islands.

The flatbed truck will also be used to cart water during times of drought and El Niño, which has been occurring recently throughout the country.

Ambassador Tezapsidis said: "Vanuatu is particularly vulnerable to natural disasters. It is imperative, therefore, that its emergency services be properly prepared to respond as swiftly as possible".

"This is why the EU supports projects that benefit communities, either directly or in collaboration with government institutions, or development partners such as SPC," he said.

On March 13, 2015, Vanuatu was hit by the largest cyclone in its history, which caused devastation in many parts of the country.

Welegtabit said the country has learned from this disaster and continues to work towards building a more resilient Vanuatu for the future.

"Coordination and working together in times of disaster is critical. These boats and trucks will give communities access to support services in a more coordinated way. We will be able to get staff and resources where they are needed faster," the NDMO Director said.

SPC's Director for Melanesia, Mia Rimon, said providing Pacific governments with the means to address transportation challenges following disasters is a practical and critical form of support for island countries.

"Ensuring communities can be reached before, during and after disasters like Cyclone Pam is critical. We're really impressed with the Vanuatu Government's commitment to improving disaster resilience and know that these trucks and boats will be a huge support in the future," she said. ***(PR)***

CAKE

From Page 11

issues it must have under its belt. This is humiliating and a disservice to the work of the commission. Did you even review the previous commission's work for educated background information?

It's da 'Biba' season!

With the near-total deterioration in the quality of life here, we bow down exasperated sifting through the rubble in search of some common sense or logic of familial issues, specifically stagnant wages.

The personal challenge while we weigh issues ahead in the impending midterm election and the accompanying heavy bag of failed promises. And the acrid odor of republican toxic charge spreads like stench of dead dogs on the road ready to explode.

It's almost "biba" time and I had to retreat quizzing if it isn't supposed to be "biliba" season. The former confirms candidacy, the latter the preparation to oust the "do-nothing" bunch. Who then do we keep or re-elect among incumbents when all share a commonality: Do-Nothing!

Fascinating how many of these incumbents really have something to show as justification for their re-election. Riveting too how many would double-up braving another lie hoping to slip by with bags of more empty promises. I mean, you failed this term and you still want another shot at collecting paychecks at taxpayers' expense?

So what issue of significance or substance did you work through that factually improve the lot of families all over? With an abysmal record and a report card replete with failures do you still want to push for another round of deceit?

Up front is the devastating economic depression—not recession—that has forced so many families into the abyss of abject poverty. What's your contribution to change this ugly condition in our developmental history? What have you done to help the 51 percent of employees earning what's federally defined as poverty level income?

Did you fail to see how the price of basic goods has intermittently taken into the heavens like shooting stars while family income remains the same? I feel the chills of the trade winds descending. Is anybody home?

IN TIME FOR CLASS OF 2016 GRADUATION

BSI CSR helps give MHS a facelift

Last Thursday, the community gathered to witness Marianas High School turn another leaf when it produced graduates in an auspicious ceremony that bore no traces of the damage that Typhoon Soudelor left the school last year.

MHS graduated 335 seniors, the largest batch since 2000, and a ceremony held for the first time outdoors—on a parking lot after typhoon Soudelor damaged the mammoth MHS gymnasium.

"To run a school is certainly a community effort as we get ready for our biggest event of the year, our 2016 graduation," stated MHS principal Cherlyn Cabrera. "This past year, we have been in typhoon recovery mode and the community has really helped us."

As a part of their self-initiated beautification efforts, Best Sunshine International, Ltd's Corporate Social Responsibility team spent a week and a half cleaning up the largest public school in the CNMI in preparation for the Class of 2016 graduation ceremony.

As the school and the Public School System Central Office continue to rebuild the MHS gym, the largest in the CNMI, MHS held this year's graduation on the parking lot. The school needed to secure a location that would accommodate the 300-plus graduates as well as their families and friends.

BSI's CSR team immediately hunkered down to provide various work throughout the campus, including grass work, repainting of worn down guard rails, recoating faded roadside curb, and disposing off of overgrown green waste left by the typhoon. The team worked tirelessly under the scorching summer sun and managed to complete the work timely for last Friday's successful graduation.

"I just want to thank the corporate responsibility team under Geri (Dela Cruz') leadership. We really appreciate the support, effort, and suggestions on ways to make our campus look better," shared MHS vice principal Bobby Cruz. "Seeing you guys out here in full force supporting our students, the future of the CNMI, that's really what it's all about. We would like to extend a mighty Dolphin thank you to Best Sunshine and particularly the corporate social responsibility team."

In appreciation, Cabrera and Cruz had the MHS Glee Club stage a surprise serenade for the CSR team held at the administration building.

The school's cheerleading team also put on a special surprise performance.

"It actually meant a huge deal for the MHS dolphin alumni on our team. They felt a great deal in giving back to their alma mater," BSI CSR executive director Geri Dela Cruz said.

She added, "There's always a greater feeling when good things are done. In this case, many of us felt good with giving back to the school."

Cabrera added, "We really sincerely appreciate all the help that Best Sunshine has given to us. Best Sunshine has been such a tremendous help the last few days so thank you on behalf of our many Dolphins!" ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Best Sunshine International, Ltd.'s CSR team helped Marianas High School beautify the grounds before the Class of 2016's graduation ceremony last Thursday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Team members are working hand-in-hand.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The MHS cheerleading team surprised the Best Sunshine CSR team with a special performance.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CSR members were more than happy to give back to the largest high school on island especially since some of their team members are MHS alumni.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Best Sunshine's CSR team ensures green waste is disposed off properly.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the BSI CSR team work diligently on improving the aesthetics of the campus through painting and grass work.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Best Sunshine CSR executive director Geri Dela Cruz works alongside her team.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The MHS glee club surprised the Best Sunshine CSR team with a special performance in appreciation for all their efforts.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Best Sunshine's CSR team was hard at work at MHS preparing for the school's graduation ceremony.

Business

Handout or no? Swiss mull $2.5K monthly income for all

GENEVA (AP)—Would you accept about $2,500 from your government every month, no questions asked?

Swiss voters get a choice Sunday in a referendum that, while not specifying a figure, asks if they want "unconditional basic income." Experts estimate a minimum of 2,500 Swiss francs ($2,560) per month is needed for an individual to make ends meet in wealthy Switzerland, where private-sector health insurance is required and the cost of living is sky-high.

Critics warn that the policy would explode the state budget. The Swiss government itself advises voters to reject the proposal, and polls suggest it will fail in a country known for free-market policies and a high-tech, capitalistic financial sector.

Proponents, however, insist the time has come for a minimum monthly wage as sweeping 21st-century economic changes like robots displacing factory workers make jobs more precarious in the digital age. They say they're seeking momentum more than outright victory.

Polls have suggested that only about one-quarter of Swiss voters back the idea.

Still, the initiative cleared the bar for a vote, which in Switzerland's direct democracy means garnering at least 100,000 signatures in a petition drive. It is one of five issues on the ballot Sunday, including efforts to raise money for public services and simplify the application procedures for asylum-seekers.

Universal basic income might seem like souped-up welfare but proponents say it's actually aimed to supplant welfare. Advocates in Switzerland and other European countries also examining the idea say current welfare systems are overburdened by red tape, deterring many potential beneficiaries from applying.

The novelty of unconditional basic income is that everybody would get it automatically. It would be a floor: Salaried workers who earn more than 2,500 francs a month would get no extra money.

Under a proposed model, each child would get one-quarter of the total for adults—about 625 francs per month—a sum higher than state child-care outlays for families today.

Possible ways of paying for it would include fees on salaries of people who earn more than the minimum, savings from welfare programs that would be discontinued and taxes or spending cuts in the state budget.

Switzerland's basic income push is among the most advanced in Europe. The Dutch city of Utrecht wants to start a two-year experiment with a similar plan, handing money to residents who already receive welfare benefits.

Ralph Kundig, president of the Swiss chapter of the Basic Income Earth Network, said some economists favored the idea as a way to underpin consumption and support the economy.

"Our parents, grandparents and beyond worked hard so that we could produce more by working less, with machines and so forth," Kundig said. "The only thing that they did not foresee was that this wealth would only benefit the owners of the means of production."

Kundig said studies and pilot projects show people wouldn't just sit at home and do nothing.

"Basic income is much more of a stimulant to employment and the economic activity of a country," he said, adding it would increase entrepreneurship because people would be less afraid about losing jobs and more willing to take risks.

Report questions whether Puerto Rico debt issued illegally

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)—A commission created to audit Puerto Rico's debt is questioning the legality of government-issued bonds in a report released Thursday, saying the struggling U.S. territory might not be responsible for paying a portion of the money owed.

The report comes as the U.S. Congress is debating how best to help Puerto Rico as it struggles to restructure $70 billion in public debt. The island is widely expected to default on a $2 billion payment due July 1.

The commission, whose 17 members were in part appointed by Puerto Rico legislators, found in its pre-audit report that millions of dollars of debt might have been issued in violation of the island's constitution. They say that is significant because previous court rulings have found that some U.S. municipal agencies were not responsible for paying debt if it was illegally issued.

The 44-page report states that Puerto Rico has borrowed more than $30 billion to finance deficits since as early as 1979, though its constitution prohibits it from doing so.

The constitution also bars the government from issuing loans for more than 30 years, but the commission found that the government has long done that. For example, a debt was incurred in 2014 to repay debt from 2003, which was used to refinance a 1987 debt.

The report also said Puerto Rico is spending more government revenue on debt than is allowed by the constitution.

"A court may rule that Puerto Rico borrowed without authorization to do so, with the consequence that Puerto Rico may be barred from issuing further debt in the future to finance deficits, it may be forced to raise taxes, or alternatively, declare the debt unpayable for lack of authorization," the report said.

The report's findings are not final. The commission noted that it has not received any funds yet to carry a full audit as planned.

"The findings of this report prove the need to dedicate resources to this audit and start to reveal who holds the debt, how borrowed money was used and if it met constitutional and legal limits," said Roberto Pagan, the commission's president.

UN envoy warns austerity policies hitting the poor hardest

BRUSSELS (AP)—The U.N.'s expert on debt and human rights says economic austerity policies are hitting poor people hard in Greece and Spain and undermining social rights in the European Union.

U.N. envoy Juan Pablo Bohoslavsky said Friday that it's not acceptable when people "no longer have the means to buy adequate food, lose access to essential medical services or cannot keep a roof over their head."

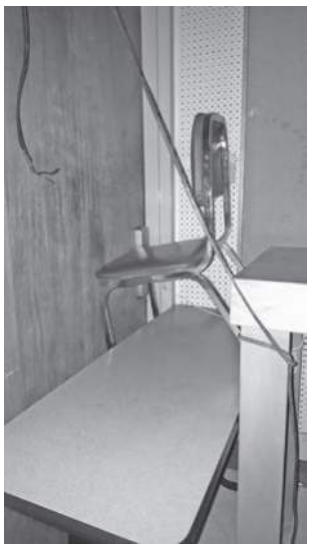
He noted a "massive violation of social and economic rights in Greece" exacerbated by austerity measures the debt-stricken country has introduced to satisfy international lenders.

Bohoslavsky called on the EU, where around 121 million people are at risk of poverty, to consider the social and human rights impact of future economic programs and reforms.

Nation

UCLA shooting renews concerns about classrooms with no locks

LOS ANGELES (AP)—When an active shooter alert spread across the UCLA campus Wednesday, some students found themselves in a frightening predicament: They were told to go into lockdown but couldn't lock their classroom doors.



AP

This photo provided by Pranasha Shrestha shows a photo of the UCLA engineering building classroom door that was barricaded during the school lockdown after a shooting on

Images of students piling tables, chairs and printers against doors on social media sparked alarm and raised questions—yet it was hardly the first time students at a university or school were unable to lock their doors during a shooting.

The same issue arose during other recent deadly attacks, including one at Virginia Tech in 2007 where students barricaded themselves inside rooms and at Sandy Hook Elementary shooting in 2012 where teachers did the same.

Some schools have installed locks in recent years following attacks, but experts say wider adoption has been hindered by the cost to retrofit doors and local fire codes that require doors to open in one motion during emergencies.

Yet once an active shooter is in a building, most security experts agree getting into a locked room is one of the most effective deterrents against getting injured or shot.

"How many deaths would it have taken for us to address this issue more seriously?" said Jesus Villahermosa, president of Crisis Reality Training, noting that an assailant, knowing police are on the way, usually won't bother trying to access a locked room.

The former deputy sheriff said UCLA was fortunate in that shooter Mainak Sarkar targeted professor William Klug and then committed suicide. If he'd gone on a rampage, he might have easily found students unable to defend themselves.

The university said Friday it was "assessing safety measures" across the campus and will make appropriate changes.

Sanders predicts Democratic convention will be contested

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Nearing the end of the primary season, a defiant Bernie Sanders predicted Saturday that the Democratic presidential process would lead to a contested summer convention against Hillary Clinton, pushing back against the likelihood that the former secretary of state will soon declare victory.

Speaking to reporters three days before the California primary, Sanders showed few signs of surrender, vowing to take his bid to the Philadelphia convention in July. He urged news organizations not to anoint Clinton as the presumptive nominee through a combination of pledged delegates and superdelegates.

"It is extremely unlikely that Secretary Clinton will have the requisite number of pledged delegates to claim victory on Tuesday night," Sanders said. "Now I have heard reports that Secretary Clinton has said it's all going to be over on Tuesday night. I have reports that the media, after the New Jersey results come in, are going to declare that it is all over. That simply is not accurate."

By nightfall, Sanders was rallying supporters outside the entrance of the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, where he pointed to his differences with Clinton on super PACs, the federal minimum wage and the Iraq War.

"Hillary Clinton wants small, incremental changes. We want to transform this nation," Sanders said as the Coliseum's flaming cauldron torch lit up the sky.

Sanders told reporters by the end of the primaries on June 14 neither candidate would have enough pledged delegates to declare victory and would be dependent upon superdelegates to reach the magic number. "In other words, the Democratic National Convention will be a contested convention," he said.

ACROSS THE NATION

Ex-Marine charged in stabbing death of Houston boy, 11

HOUSTON (AP)—A 27-year-old ex-Marine from Houston has been charged with murder in the stabbing death of an 11-year-old who was walking home from school last month, police said Saturday. Andre Timothy Jackson Jr. was arrested Friday afternoon at the Salvation Army in downtown Houston and charged later in the day, Mayor Sylvester Turner said at a news conference Saturday. Jackson is being held in the Harris County Jail on $100,000 bond. It wasn't immediately clear whether he had an attorney. Jackson, who police said was discharged from the Marines in 2011, is accused of stabbing Josue Flores as the sixth-grader walked home from school May 17. Josue was only a few blocks from home. "We cannot bring him back, but I hope today's announcement can perhaps bring a little bit of comfort to those who love him," Turner said. "Our minds search for answers that just aren't there. What we do know is it was senseless, it was brutal, it was cold-blooded. And someone needs to pay the price for it and justice needs to be rendered."

Dog attacks, kills 7-year-old boy in Maine

CORINNA, Maine (AP)—A dog has attacked and killed a 7-year-old boy in Maine. The Penobscot (peh-NAHB'-skaht) County Sheriff's Office says it happened Saturday evening in the town of Corinna, about 30 miles west of Bangor. Authorities have not yet released the boy's name or the breed of the dog involved in the attack. No one else was injured. The dog has been impounded as authorities continue to investigate.

Asia

Their visibility belies scorn, harm transgender Thais face

BANGKOK (AP)—The most dangerous place in high school for Jetsada Taesombat was the boys' bathroom. Her makeup, her lipstick, her accessories became signals to fellow students who targeted her with cruel jokes, insults and physical abuse. But Jetsada refused to hide her transgender identity.

The visibility of transgender people, especially in Bangkok, might make Thailand appear more liberal than other countries regarding their identity. But the reality, they say, is that transgender Thais face deep discrimination, scorn and aggression. Often, it happens in bathrooms, where closed doors and expectations of privacy ensure secrecy for the perpetrators.

When Jetsada complained to her teacher that she had been sexually harassed in the bathroom, the teacher blamed it on her makeup. When she appealed the teacher to act, the teacher said the harassment was a consequence of being a sexual deviant.

"Growing up in an all-boys school, I didn't feel comfortable going into the boys' toilet," said Jetsada, now 32. "I was afraid for my life. I was afraid of getting bullied or sexually harassed."

Jetsada always chose to use the girls' bathroom, despite the risk of being scolded or reprimanded. Facing a teacher's wrath was the better option. If she couldn't get access to the girls' toilet, Jetsada would wait until school ended or she brought a transgender friend to stand guard in the boys' bathroom.

Transgender Thais say the situation here is similar to the United States, where conflicting state laws and federal policy on the matter are being hotly debated. Lawsuits have been filed to challenge the Obama administration's directive allowing transgender people to use bathrooms matching their gender identity, as well as a North Carolina law requiring people to use bathrooms of their birth gender.

PH president-elect dares media to boycott him

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President-elect Rodrigo Duterte blasted media groups on Thursday for condemning his earlier comments that appeared to justify the killing of journalists if they are corrupt or overly critical. He refused to apologize and dared reporters to carry out a threat to boycott his news conferences.

"Don't threaten me, boycott, boycott!" Duterte said at a late-night news conference in Davao city, where he has been mayor for 22 years. "Go ahead and boycott, damn you!"

International and local media groups have expressed outrage over Duterte's remark on Tuesday that many journalists have been killed in the Philippines because they were corrupt or criticized others too much. Reporters Without Borders urged local media to boycott his news conferences until he issues a public apology.

Duterte, 71, whose six-year term starts June 30, said he would not apologize, using an expletive.

He said he would survive even if journalists boycott him because he could ask the state-run TV network to cover his activities.

"I'm telling the networks, do not come here. I do not need you," he said, threatening to order his Cabinet members not to speak to journalists who are not from the state-run network.

At the end of the profanity-filled news conference, Duterte said he would end his vulgarity after he is sworn in as president, promising that the country will see a "metamorphosis."

According to the International Federation of Journalists, the Philippines has been the second-deadliest country for journalists since 1990, behind only war-torn Iraq.

The Committee to Protect Journalists said Duterte's remarks on Tuesday "apparently excusing extrajudicial killings threaten to make the Philippines into a killing field for journalists." It said the country ranks fourth on its impunity index, which spotlights countries where the killers of journalists go unpunished.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Kerry cautions China on actions in South China Sea

ULAANBAATAR, Mongolia (AP)—U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry says China would be committing a provocative and destabilizing act if it establishes an air defense zone in the South China Sea. Kerry says doing so would raise tensions between China and other Asian countries. He says such an act also would call into question China's commitment to resolving disputes over islands and maritime claims diplomatically. Kerry says the U.S. doesn't take sides on competing claims. He says no country should move unilaterally to militarize the resource-rich region. Kerry spoke to reporters while visiting Mongolia. He travels on to China later Sunday for annual U.S.-China strategic and economic talks.

14 missing, 1 child dead after boat capsizes on Chinese lake

BEIJING (AP)—A leisure boat capsized on a large lake in southwestern China during strong winds, killing one child and leaving another 14 people missing, local authorities said. The incident happened Saturday afternoon in Sichuan province on Bailong Lake, a man-made lake that translates as "White Dragon" and has an area of more than 60 square kilometers (20 square miles). The lake is surrounded by mountains and a tourist attraction. An online statement from the news office of Guangyuan city government said late Saturday that the boat was carrying 18 people and the three survivors were receiving treatment. The child was pulled out from the water and given emergency treatment, but died at a hospital. The search for the missing continues.

Man dies days after being bitten by shark off west Australia

PERTH, Australia (AP)—A surfer whose leg was bitten off by a shark last week in waters off western Australia has died at a hospital from his injuries. The brother of 29-year-old Ben Gerring thanked the "heroes" who brought him to shore after the attack and the medical staff at Royal Perth Hospital, where he died late Friday night. Rick Gerring said the hospital staff had given them three days with their loved one. "Obviously we were always hoping for the best outcome, it was always at the back of our minds that this could happen, but they gave us that time to say our goodbyes," he told ABC News. Ben Gerring was attacked Tuesday afternoon while paddling his surfboard at Falcon Beach in his hometown of Mandurah, south of Perth. Fellow surfers paddled to him to bring him to shore, witnesses said.

World

Seine River peaks in Paris, top museums stay shut for days

PARIS (AP)—The Seine River peaked early Saturday around Paris, hitting its highest level in nearly 35 years—almost 4.5 meters (15 feet) above average—then began a slow descent. That drew a collective sigh of relief but authorities cautioned it could take up to 10 days for the river to return to normal.

It will take at least four days before tourists in the French capital get a chance to view art at the world-class Louvre Museum, where workers have been scrambling to move 250,000 artworks from basement storage areas to rooms upstairs to keep them safe from flooding.

The Louvre, home to Leonardo da Vinci's "Mona Lisa," said it won't reopen until Wednesday, while the Orsay Museum, known for its impressionist art, was closed at least through the weekend. Other Paris landmarks shut down due to flooding include the national library and the Grand Palais, Paris' opulent exhibition center, which was built more than 100 years ago.

Nearly a week of heavy rain has led to serious flooding across parts of France, Germany, Romania and Belgium.

The death toll from flooding in France rose to four, with 24 others injured, French Prime Minister Manuel Valls said Saturday after a government crisis meeting, bringing the flooding death toll across Europe to 18.

A regional lawmaker in Bavaria, Michael Fahrmueller, was quoted by the dpa news agency as estimating that economic damages from flooding in Lower Bavaria would be over 1 billion euros ($1.14 billion). He said 5,000 homes were affected—500 of them beyond repair—and 200 bridges destroyed.

No damages estimates have been made yet for flooding in France.

In Germany, where 11 people have died from flooding, another weather catastrophe struck when a lightning storm hit a rock festival west of Frankfurt late Friday, sending more than 70 people to the hospital. The Rock am Ring festival was suspended Saturday, with organizers urging tens of thousands of festival-goers to seek shelter.

Iraqi military takes a slow approach in battle for Fallujah

CAMP TARIQ, Iraq (AP)—The battle for Fallujah is shaping up to be unlike any of the other assaults in the Iraqi military's town-by-town war with the Islamic State group.

In the nearly two weeks since the operation began, airstrikes have been used sparingly, Shiite militias have so far been kept to the perimeter, and the initial advance on the symbolically important town has been slow.

U.S.-trained Iraqi counterterrorism forces, wary of coming street battles in the city, are already facing fierce resistance on the outskirts from well-entrenched militants. Those fighters are believed to include many foreign jihadis who are considered better-trained that the ones in towns that have been retaken in recent months.

In Ramadi—the last major victory for Iraqi forces against IS—many of the militants were able to flee to other strongholds along the Euphrates River valley. Now, all of that territory has been cleared, and the extremists have no escape route from Fallujah.

That suggests a long fight for the city less than an hour's drive west of Baghdad.

While Fallujah is smaller in area than Ramadi, an estimated 50,000 people are trapped in the city, twice as many as were in Ramadi when it was recaptured.

Aid groups say about 1,000 families have managed to flee the outskirts of Fallujah since the operation began May 22. But the Norwegian Refugee Council, an international humanitarian group that does extensive work in Iraq's Anbar province, says none of the civilians trapped in the center of the city have made it out.

Residents have told The Associated Press that IS fighters tightly control all roads in and out of the city and have threatened to kill anyone who tries to escape.

Niger's defense ministry says Boko Haram kills 32 soldiers

NIAMEY, Niger (AP)—Hundreds of Boko Haram extremists attacked a military post in Niger near the country's border with Nigeria, killing at least 32 soldiers, Niger's defense ministry said Saturday.

The attack in Bosso on Friday left 30 Niger soldiers and two soldiers from Nigeria dead, the ministry said in a statement, adding that at least 67 other soldiers were wounded.

"They burned houses, looted food stores and shops, and burned the military post before fleeing with weapons and ammunition," said Adam Boukarna, a deputy in Bosso..

Residents left Bosso during the attacks and headed to Toumour, about 30 kilometers (19 miles) to the west, he said.

The military launched a counterattack Saturday using air and land forces, pushing the militants out of Bosso and inflicting heavy casualties, the ministry said without giving further details.

Boko Haram claimed responsibility for the attack, saying 35 soldiers were killed, according to the SITE Intelligence Group, which monitors jihadi online postings. The Nigeria-based Islamic militants pledged support for the Islamic State last year.

Niger contributes to a multi-national force set up to fight Boko Haram in the region, where attacks have killed at least 20,000 people and displaced 2.7 million, according to Amnesty International and the United Nations.

Dozens gathered Saturday in Niger's capital, Niamey, to march against the insecurity caused by the militant group which has launched several attacks in Niger in recent weeks.

Health & Fitness

Reasons to care about your core

TNS
A strong core provides stability and balance, and is necessary to participate in most physical activities, says Erin Pokorny, a Mayo Clinic Health System nurse practitioner.

Whether you enjoy going to the gym five days a week or doing a few sit-ups occasionally, chances are you may not place enough emphasis on your core. Because of the tendency to neglect this group of muscles, it's important to know the benefits your body receives from core muscle exercise.

"The muscles around your trunk and pelvis are called your core muscles," says Erin Pokorny, a Mayo Clinic Health System nurse practitioner. "They work together to provide stability and balance. In order to play sports and participate in most physical activities, a strong core is a necessity."

Pokorny provides tips to make the first steps toward a strong, healthy core:

— Find some floor space and lie down on your back with your knees bent. With your back in a neutral position, tighten your abs and raise your hips off the floor. If you do this exercise correctly, your hips should align with your knees and shoulders. Hold this position as long as you can.

■ Grab a pair of free weights, and do exercises that involve maintaining a stable trunk. There are numerous exercises you can try to find the perfect fit for your goals.

■ Implement a well-rounded fitness program that includes aerobic exercises, strength training and core exercises.

■ Visit mayoclinic.org for more exercises that you can try at home.

"Your core muscles allow you to do all the things you love," says Pokorny. "Without strong core muscles, playing your favorite sports or hiking your favorite trail wouldn't be possible. Having strong core muscles is an essential part of your health. To put you on the fast track to a strong core, follow this advice, and get moving." ***(Mayo Clinic News Network)***

Kansas food pantry helps low-income families with allergies

By MARIA SUDEKUM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)— The Kansas City area is home to a new food pantry that aims to help lower-income people with food allergies deal with the costs of specialty foods they can safely eat.

The ReNewed Health Food Pantry opened in Overland Park, Kansas, about a year ago, the brainchild of Emily Brown and a friend; they also started a nonprofit to help low-income residents with food allergies. Brown believes it was the first such pantry in the U.S., and a similar one has since opened near Philadelphia. Brown also plans to help open another allergen-free pantry later this year in Missouri.

For Brown, it was personal. Her young daughter is allergic to milk, eggs, wheat, soy and peanuts, and the specialty food she could eat—a $6.99 loaf of gluten-free bread, for example - pushed the family's budget "through the roof" and eventually contributed to their decision to seek federal food assistance, the former preschool teacher said. But the allergen-free food options in the federal Women, Infants and Children assistance program (corn tortillas instead of bread, and rice instead of pasta) were less than ideal.

"I was really just kind of disappointed to discover that the assistance that I needed wasn't there either," Brown said. Her daughter is among about 15 million people in the U.S. that the national advocacy group Food Allergy Research and Education estimates have food allergies. That includes about one in every 13 children, according to FARE.

Low-income families with children with allergies spend more than twice as much on visits to emergency rooms and hospitals than mid- to high-income families, recent research from Northwestern University found. And about 40 percent of those children surveyed also reported experiencing life-threatening reactions to food, such as trouble breathing and a drop in blood pressure.

"The fact that they were able to open up a food pantry for kids who can't afford the special foods for food allergies - incredible," said Dr. Ruchi Gupta, an associate professor of pediatrics who led the Northwestern study, which was published in April. Until there are treatments for food allergies beyond prevention, Gupta said "the bottom line is we have to do everything we can to help keep these kids safe. And it's not asking a lot."

Food allergies have helped spur the multibillion-dollar allergen-free food industry, but Gupta would like to see regular grocery stores with one aisle of lower-priced allergen-free foods.

The ReNewed Health Food Pantry, which opens once a week by appointment in an Overland Park, Kansas, church, has so far provided more than 12,000 pounds of allergen-free food free of charge to about 20 families. Provisions, which include gluten-free breads and alternatives to dairy, egg and peanut products, are largely provided from manufacturer donations, food drives and other contributions. Clients must have a doctor's order saying the allergen-free foods are medically necessary and show their income is at or below 250 percent of the poverty level, Brown said.

Healthy Living

Onion types

They come in an impressive array of sizes and colors, but all belong to one of these two categories:

	Spring onions	Storage onions
Season	Spring	Late summer to early fall
Flesh	Soft, with long green foliage	Firm, with dry skin
Flavor	Mild or sweet	Pungent
Use	Eaten fresh, often raw	Store well; usually cooked

Source: The Wellness Encyclopedia of Food and Nutrition, TNS Photo Service

A diet to help prevent serious eye illness

By ALISON BOWEN
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Want a diet that might help your eyes? Think green.

Chicago ophthalmologist Dr. Jonathan Rosin recommends a diet rich in green, leafy vegetables, plus adding in two servings of fish a week.

"It's all the things that mom told you to do," Rosin said.

The federal National Eye Institute's Age-Related Eye Disease Study found that taking in high levels of antioxidants and zinc can reduce the risk of macular degeneration by about 25 percent.

So think spinach, kale, broccoli, lettuce.

"Those are diets that really tend to provoke less eye diseases than other diets," he said.

The American Academy of Ophthalmology, too, suggests a few foods to keep eyes healthy. It recommends a diet of foods low in fat and rich in fruits, veggies and grains.

For example, kale has nutrients that might lower the risk for macular degeneration and cataracts, according to the AAO. Other greens that support eye health are collards and romaine lettuce because they contain lutein and zeaxanthin, important nutrients.

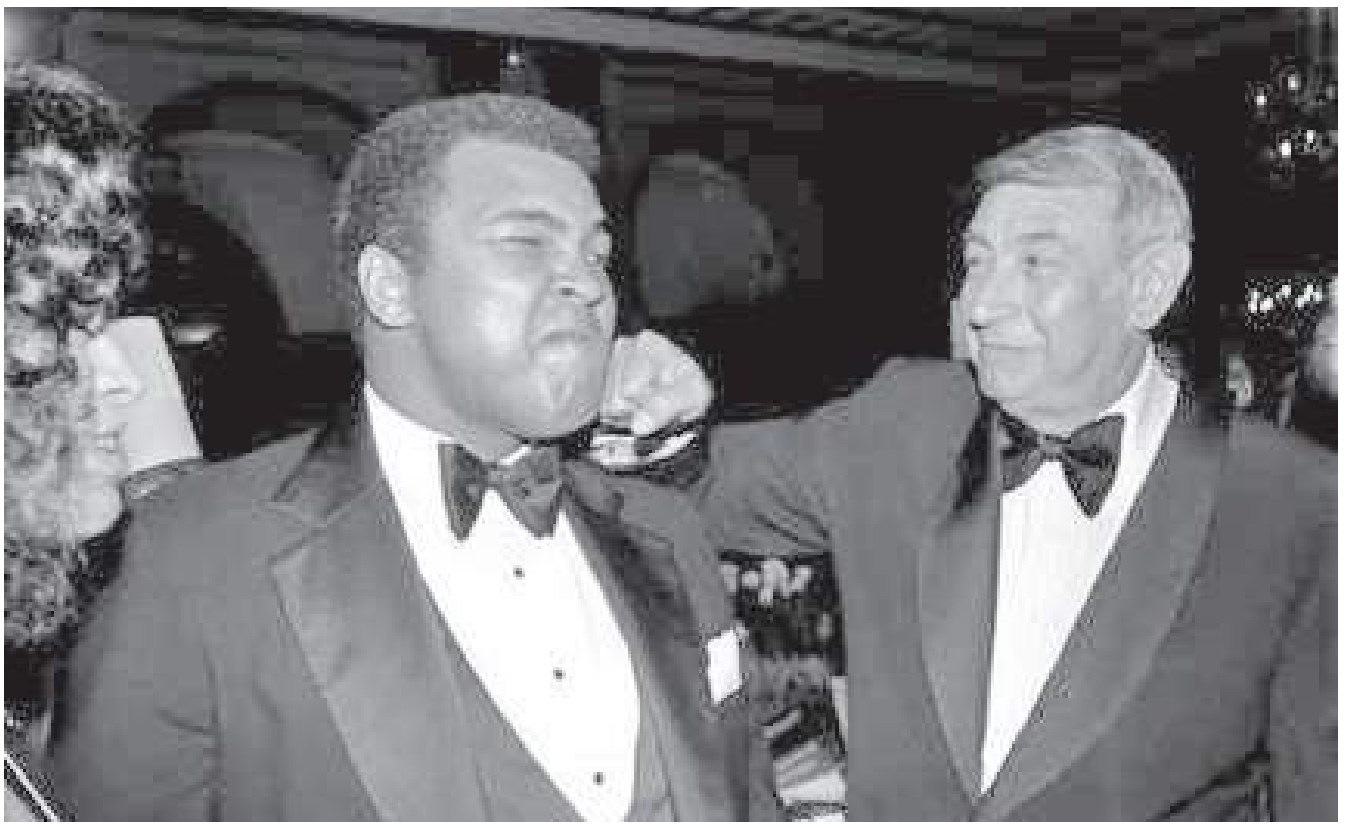
The AAO suggests making salmon one of your fish servings because it contains omega-3 fatty acids, which are good for your eyes and heart. It says kidney beans are a good source of zinc.

TNS
To support eye health, Chicago opthalmologist Dr. Jonathan Rosin recommends a diet rich in green, leafy vegetables.

Life & Style

Muhammad Ali was the subject of many films and star of a few

By DAN GELSTON
AP SPORTS WRITER



AP
In this April 13, 1981, file photo, sportscaster Howard Cosell, right, is pictured laying one on the chin of former world heavyweight boxing champ Muhammad Ali during a dinner in New York.

Muhammad Ali would almost seem unbelievable if he was created as a work of fiction for a movie script.

He was brash, bold, the best in the world—just ask him—and might have won an Oscar instead of heavyweight gold had he taken his A-list talents to Hollywood instead of the boxing ring.

He was more quotable than any Tarantino flick, had the presence of Brando in boxing gloves (though he WAS a contender) and survived more adventures and cliffhangers in his career than Bond.

Ali was made for the movies.

His life story was made into a movie or a documentary seemingly more times than he had professional fights. Ali even starred in his own biopic and guest starred on television shows such as "Diff'rent Strokes."

"Hi there, Arnold," Ali tells Strokes' kid Arnold Jackson, played by Gary Coleman.

"Who's that?" Arnold asked, feigning illness so he could meet Ali.

"It's me, the champ," Ali said.

"Joe Louis," Arnold says to laughter.

"This kid's delirious," Ali deadpanned.

Ali had the presence for the big screen and here are some of the greatest films made about the champ.

ALI

Will Smith portrayed Ali when his life got flipped upside down.

Smith, more memorable for his comedy and action roles, was nominated for an Academy Award for his portrayal of Ali in the 2001 flick.

"I ain't got to be what nobody else want me to be and I ain't afraid to be what I wanna be," Smith, as Ali, says in one scene.

The biographical film , directed by Michael Mann, centers on Ali from 1964-74 and follows him as he defeats Sonny Liston for the heavyweight title and the personal and professional drama that followed him.

Smith plays Ali as he defied the draft, converted to Islam and fought Joe Frazier and George Foreman.

Film critic Roger Ebert gave the film two stars and said it was a, "long, flat, curiously muted film about the heavyweight champion."

WHEN WE WERE KINGS

Ebert had much more love for the acclaimed 1996 documentary "When We Were Kings."

The film chronicles perhaps Ali's most memorable bout, the "Rumble in the Jungle," when he upset George Foreman to become heavyweight champion once again at age 32.

Ebert praised the film and said it "captures Ali's public persona and private resolve." The film won an Oscar for best documentary feature.

With Jodie Foster and Kevin Spacey wildly applauding, Foreman and Ali both hit the stage to help accept the award.

THE GREATEST

"The Greatest" was more than just Ali's nickname—it was the title of a dramatized version of his life starring, well, Ali.

There is real fight footage in the 1977 movie, which chronicles Ali's life from the 1960 Olympics to his early 1970s title fights. Ernest Borgnine played Angelo Dundee and James Earl Jones played Malcolm X.

"The Greatest" wasn't all that great, though it does boast one bit of interesting trivia. That song that plays over the opening credits of a jogging Ali is "The Greatest Love of All" by George Benson. You might know it more from a decade or so later when it became a smash hit for Whitney Houston.

MUHAMMAD ALI'S GREATEST FIGHT

The 2013 HBO film was notable because it did not actually feature an actor playing Ali. The film was about Ali's refusal to report for induction into the United States military during the Vietnam War over his claim to conscientious objector status.

The film used real clips of Ali boxing and conducting interviews. It starred actors Christopher Plummer, Ed Begley Jr. and Danny Glover as the Supreme Court justices who had to decide Ali's fate.

The Supreme Court ruled in Ali's favor in the 1971 case of Clay v. United States. Ali was born Cassius Clay.

The day Muhammad Ali met the Beatles

By TIM DAHLBERG
AP BOXING WRITER

It's hard to imagine now: barely having a clue who the Beatles were, or the man who would become Muhammad Ali.

But that's how things were when Robert Lipsyte found himself face-to-face with these future legends more than 50 years ago, through a chance of publicity matchmaking.

The New York Times had plucked Lipsyte from the feature department to go to Miami Beach and cover the heavyweight boxing title fight between champ Sonny Liston and the upstart Cassius Clay, who would later change his name to Ali. He barely knew who Clay was, and even less about the mop-haired singers who happened to show up during his visit.

"I wasn't a teenage girl," Lipsyte said. "I really didn't know who the Beatles were or what they would become."

A few days earlier they had appeared for the first time on television's popular Ed Sullivan Show. Now they were being led up a stairway in the gym where Clay trained, with an unwitting Lipsyte swept along.

"They're little guys with lots of hair and all wearing white terrycloth cabana jackets," Lipsyte said. "They were yelling and cursing because they had just been told Clay wasn't there yet, and they wanted to leave. But these big security types just kind of herded them up the stairs."

Lipsyte found himself in a dressing room with the Beatles, who weren't at all happy. They had gone earlier to Liston's training, but Liston took one look at them and refused to pose for pictures.

Lipsyte introduced himself and asked for their prediction, which was for a first-round Liston knockout. Then they all waited for 10 or 15 minutes, with the Beatles complaining the whole time, for Clay to arrive.

"But suddenly the door burst open and there he is. He's the most gorgeous creature I've ever seen. He kind of glows and he's laughing, and he says, 'Come on, Beatles, let's go make some money.'"

Make some money they did. In photos that would become legendary, Clay is shown knocking the Beatles down like dominoes, and standing over them sprawled out in the ring.

AP
In this Feb. 18, 1964, file photo, the Beatles, from left, Ringo Starr, John Lennon, George Harrison, and Paul McCartney spar up to Muhammad Ali, or Cassius Clay at the time, while visiting the heavyweight contender at his training camp in Miami Beach, Fla.

Hiding female cast, 'Ghostbusters' courts male moviegoers

NEW YORK (AP)—To sell "Ghostbusters," who are you going to call? In the film's initial nationwide TV spots, not its female stars.

Sony Pictures trotted out commercials Thursday night that promoted the female-led reboot not with cast members Melissa McCarthy or Kristen Wiig, but basketball stars Kobe Bryant and Carmelo Anthony. The ads ran on ABC during game one of the NBA Finals, which is watched by a largely male audience.

Targeting different demographics through varied marketing strategies is commonplace for Hollywood films. Rarer are ads that replace a movie's actual cast wholesale.

The ads, which drew mixed reactions from viewers Thursday night, exhibited the anxiety Sony may have in getting enough male moviegoers to buy tickets for the big-budget comedy. A lot is riding on the film, due out July 15, which cost more than $150 million to make.

Since its inception, Paul Feig's "Ghostbusters"—which also stars Kate McKinnon and Leslie Jones—has proven unexpectedly divisive online. Some have objected to the 1984 original being remade at all, while others have voiced criticisms of the female-led cast that have been called sexist. Much attention has centered on the high number of "dislikes" the film's trailer received on YouTube.

Spike Lee throws dance party ahead of Prince's 58th birthday

NEW YORK (AP)—The dress code was purple, and the only requirement was to party. Hundreds of people obliged Saturday as Spike Lee threw a huge outdoor party for Prince ahead of the late legend's 58th birthday.

Al Sharpton, Rosie Perez, former Prince associates and others joined the crowd in paying tribute to the late superstar, whose birthday is Tuesday.

Prince died April 21, and an autopsy revealed this week that he had died of an accidental overdose of fentanyl, a powerful opioid painkiller. But the focus Saturday was on Prince's life and music, not his death.

For six hours, fans of all ages jammed to hits like "When Doves Cry," ''Starfish and Coffee," ''Erotic City" and more under the hot sun. Some dressed as their idol, while others wore T-shirts that bore his likeness; others donned purple hair, while one woman had his famous symbol shaved on the back of her head.

AP

A banner promoting the event is displayed on a lamp post near the location of the "Prince Born Day Purple People Party"ù in New York, Saturday, June 4, 2016.

"Y'all came to celebrate Prince today? Will you celebrate him tomorrow? Will you celebrate him next week? Will you celebrate him next year? Will you celebrate him the rest of your life?" TV host Sway Calloway asked the crowd, to cheers.

Spike Lee entered the party holding a gold Prince symbol, followed by a troupe of kid drummers, all wearing purple. Lee took turns with Sway as emcee of the event.

Sharpton and others also acknowledged the loss of another icon, Muhammad Ali, who died early Saturday morning.

"As one who knew him for many years, I told Spike maybe he left 'cause he heard there was a jam session," Sharpton said. "And Prince has heated up the band on the other side. And somewhere I see Ali waving his hands saying 'Purple Rain, Purple Rain." They're having a big jam session."

Musician Andre Cymone, who played with Prince and knew him since childhood, said he was still mourning.

"I'm still in shock. A beautiful brother, and I'm lost. I can't even put it into words," he told the crowd.

Perez, basketball great Earl "The Pearl" Monroe and John Salley also spoke at the event.

Lee held an impromptu dance party in Brooklyn after the singer died on April 21. He also held a similar celebration honoring Michael Jackson in the years since his 2009 death.

Sony names Sanford Panitch president of Columbia Pictures

NEW YORK (AP)—Sony Pictures Entertainment has named Sanford Panitch president of Columbia Pictures, replacing Doug Belgrad.

The announcement was made Friday by Sony Pictures Entertainment Motion Picture Group chairman Tom Rothman, who took over as studio chief from Amy Pascal last year following the computer hack of Sony. Panitch has overseen international production at the studio since last June.

Rothman praises Panitch's film background and says his international expertise fits exactly with the company's "expanded global emphasis and ambitions." Rothman says Sony is "moving forward to shape the new Columbia Pictures."

The nearly 100-year-old Columbia Pictures is the most renowned division of Sony's film operations.

Belgrad is a longtime veteran of Columbia Pictures. He had been in the running for studio head following Pascal's exit. He will stay on through July.

Fox apologizes for billboard showing strangling from 'X-Men'

NEW YORK (AP)—Twentieth Century Fox has apologized for a billboard that features Jennifer Lawrence's "X-Men: Apocalypse" character Mystique being strangled.

The billboard has been criticized by some who are offended by the imagery of Oscar Isaac's Apocalypse choking Mystique. Actress and filmmaker Rose McGowan says there's "a major problem when the men and women at 20th Century Fox think casual violence against women is a way to market a film."

In a statement, Fox says that in highlighting the villainy of Apocalypse, "we didn't immediately realize the upsetting connotation of this image in print form."

The studio apologized and says it's removing promotional materials with the image. Fox adds that it "would never condone violence against women."

'Glee' star Salling pleads not guilty in child porn case

LOS ANGELES (AP)—An actor who starred on the musical dramedy "Glee" pleaded not guilty to federal pornography charges Friday and had his internet usage and travel severely restricted.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Rozella A. Oliver ruled Mark Salling can be released after he posts $150,000 bail, including $100,000 of his own money to guarantee future court appearances. Salling, 33, answered several questions from the judge and entered the not guilty during his court appearance, which also resulted in a July trial date being set.

Salling, who played bad-boy Noah "Puck" Puckerman on the Fox musical dramedy, was charged last week with two counts receiving and possessing child pornography after a grand jury indicted him last week. U.S. Attorney's spokesman Thom Mrozek said investigators found an extensive, carefully organized collection of child pornography during searches of Salling's electronic devices.

Prosecutors initially sought to have Salling held without bail, but reached an agreement with the actor's attorneys to allow bail to be posted. Salling's attorney Alan Eisner surrendered Salling's passport during Friday's hearing.

Salling's internet-connected devices must now be approved by federal authorities, he will have to wear a location monitoring bracelet and submit to drug testing as conditions of his release, Oliver said.

AP

Actor Mark Salling, who starred on the musical dramedy "Glee," leaves federal court in Los Angeles after pleading not guilty to federal pornography charges Friday, June 3, 2016, and had his internet usage and travel severely restricted.

Marriage hits rough patch when old hurt resurfaces

DEAR ABBY: I have been with my husband for 28 years. During our first year of marriage, I caught him making out with an old classmate of mine. He assured me that it was only that and nothing else, so I decided to work through it.

We have five beautiful children now, and I'm not sure why I brought up that episode, but when I did I came to find out that he did, in fact, have sex with her. He swears it was that one and only time.

I can't find it in my heart to believe him after he held on to this lie for all these years. I would have never given him a second chance had I known back then. I would have moved on with my life.

We still have two little ones to raise, but I feel as torn and heartbroken as if it happened yesterday. He's a great father to our children and has been a wonderful husband, but is that enough anymore?

SALTED HEART

DEAR SALTED HEART: Your husband most likely realized that if he told you the truth about his fling when it happened, the marriage would be over, which is why he lied. You have had 28 happy years of marriage to someone you say is a great father and wonderful husband. I can understand why you are upset, but think rationally.

If marriage counseling would make you feel better, please go for it and forgive him. To throw away everything you and your husband have invested in this marriage over something that happened almost three decades ago would be foolish, and you will regret it.

DEAR ABBY: I had a color and haircut and gave the stylist a generous tip. When I got home I noticed that one side was uneven, so I called the owner of the shop, who told me to return the next day and they would fix the problem. No charge.

I returned, and another stylist corrected the problem. I asked again about the charge and the owner repeated, "No charge." I didn't tip the second person as I had tipped the first one after paying for the color/cut.

As I was leaving the salon, I overheard another salon worker ask the employee who had fixed my hair, "Did she not give you a tip?" Given the original expense, I didn't feel another tip was warranted. Did I do the right thing?

NO TIP IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR NO TIP: You should have given the second stylist a tip. The salon owner told you the SERVICE was free, but the second stylist should not have been punished for the sloppy work of the first one.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: My brother is getting married the same day and time that my wife graduates from college. The wedding date has been set for a year and a half. My wife found out a few months ago that there would be a conflict. I'm expected to be at my brother's wedding to escort my mom down the aisle. Which do I attend?

CAN'T BE IN TWO PLACES

DEAR CAN'T BE: With apologies to your wife, you should honor the commitment you made first.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

IN THE COMMERCIALS, THIS COLA GREATLY INCREASES ONE'S SEX APPEAL.
GLIK GLIK GLICK GLIGK
BUR-UR-URPP!!
EVIDENTLY A LITTLE LICENSE ON MADISON AVENUE'S PART.
PHOO! RIGHT UP MY NOSE.

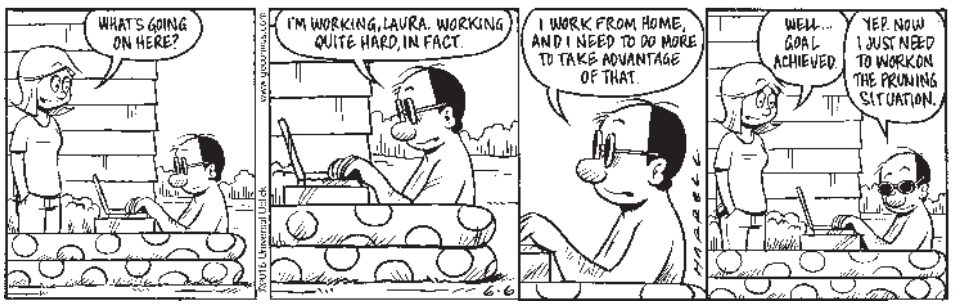
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

AND THEN MOM SAID, "STAY AND HAVE ANOTHER CUP OF TEA, JONNY," AND I SAID, "NO, THANKS, MOM. GOTTA GO HOME AND BORE THE CAT!" HA! HA!
GARFIELD?
Z
JIM DAVIS 6-6

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
I'M WORKING, LAURA. WORKING QUITE HARD, IN FACT.
I WORK FROM HOME, AND I NEED TO DO MORE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THAT.
WELL... GOAL ACHIEVED.
YEP. NOW I JUST NEED TO WORK ON THE PRUNING SITUATION.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG?
I RAN INTO AN OLD FRIEND I HAVEN'T SNIFFED IN A WHILE!
ANYTHING NEW?
HIS OWNER APPARENTLY SWITCHED BRANDS OF CARPET FRESHENER

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Satchel
4 "Hog-wash!"
9 Droop
12 Raw rock
13 Puccini work
14 Anger
15 Fiber-producing cater-pillars
17 Meadow
18 — Jima
19 "Mercy me!"
21 "Ben-Hur" star
24 Check
25 "The Greatest"
26 Char-lotte's creation
28 A bit crazy
31 Cereal go-with
33 Insult, slangily
35 March Madness gp.
36 Sasha's sister
38 Just out
40 Music booster
41 "Young Franken-stein" role
43 Roof features
45 — tiger
47 Lab eggs
48 "Hail!"
49 1985 Costner/ Kline western
54 French article
55 Step
56 Sturdy tree
57 Connec-tions
58 Smidgens
59 Scale abbr.

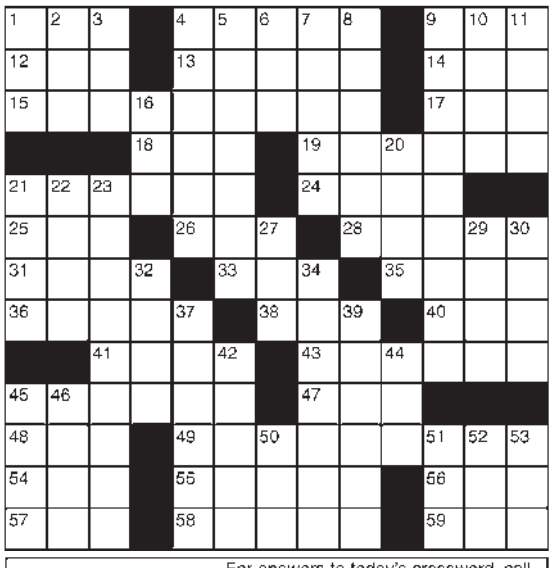
DOWN

1 Derek and Diddley
2 "Exodus" hero
3 Solidify
4 Meeting
5 Ca-noodled
6 That girl
7 Knight wear
8 Cleansed
9 Coolidge nickname
10 Region
11 Paraphernalia
16 Tool set
20 Pop singer Céline
21 Soccer star Mia
22 Lamb alias
23 Absurdity
27 Crib
29 Docile
30 Puppy barks
32 Monarch
34 Guitarist Andrés
37 Tennis great Andre
39 Vacillates
42 Justice Samuel —
44 Rail
45 Island near Java
46 Squared
50 Long. crosser
51 "You've got mail" co.
52 Wee dollop
53 Agrees to

Solution time: 26 mins.

O	H	M		A	V	A		B	U	X	O	M
P	E	A		R	I	D		C	L	I	V	E
I	N	K		C	O	M	M	O	T	I	O	N
U	N	O		S	L	I	E	R				
M	A	R	C		I	¯	O		S	A	L	T
			U	R	N		R	U	C	K	U	S
G	R	I	S	T				S	H	A	C	K
P	O	T	H	E	R		B	O	W			
A	W	A	Y		C	S	J		A	M	P	S
			B	O	A	R	S		O	R	C	
K	E	R	F	U	F	F	L	E		C	I	A
F	I	M	F	A		F	A	R		H	M	M
G	O	N	E	R		S	P	A		A	A	S

Friday's answer 6 - 6



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Aubrey Anderson-Emmons, 9; Natalie Morales, 44; Paul Giamatti, 49; Robert Englund, 69.

Happy Birthday: Why wait? Size up your situation and weigh the pros and cons. Making choices, moves and decisions based on truth and honesty will help you maneuver your way out of a difficult situation. Discipline and determination will guide you to the place you are meant to be. Don't waffle—do whatever it takes to feel satisfied. Your numbers are 6, 14, 17, 23, 30, 34, 46.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Look for a learning experience. Whether it's a destination, debate or a mentor, any opportunity that will give you a better view of current trends or possibilities should be your aim. Embrace change and focus on pushing forward. Romance is encouraged. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Participate, make new friends and try something new. The more engaged you become, the easier it will be to take on new challenges. Put your energy into positive projects and you will excel. Partnerships will lead to new experiences and new beginnings. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't question the inevitable. Put your energy into the here and now, and accomplish what you can. Keeping fit will help you build confidence and give you the wherewithal to say no to poor influences. Focus inward. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Check out what's happening in your own backyard. There is plenty you can do without letting other people interfere with your progress. Trust in your intuition and follow your heart. Your emotions will tell you what to do next. Don't fear being different. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Anger will work against you. Concentrate on helping others and on personal development. Change can be good if you look at the possibilities and choose what works best for you. Look for an ideal way to make money and lower debt. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Think matters through. Once you have a clear picture of what you want to do and how to go about it, you will be in a better position to round up what you need to reach your goals. Do the legwork first. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): You'll run into problems if you let your emotions take over. Concentrate on learning new things. Avoid anyone who is trying to manipulate you or push you in an unfavorable direction. Fitness and good nutrition will pay off. ✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): You'll be tuned in and on top of any plan you want to see unfold. Travel, gathering information and interacting with people who can help you reach the next level will lead to personal and professional victory. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Take care of your personal documents. Updates and renewals will help you avoid being audited or miss out on a chance to make some money. A problem with a partnership will be costly if you don't learn to say "no." ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): A change at home will give you greater insight as to what lies ahead. Speak up and share your plans. An opportunity will surface if you are upfront and progressive. You stand to gain if you push for what you want. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Walk away from anyone who is trying to take over. Focus on your home and the way you want to live. Make the changes that will make you happy. Don't miss out because you are too busy doing things for everyone else. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Don't let confusion set in. Rely on your past experience and the people who you know you can trust. A chance to discover valuable information will occur if you put your unique ideas into play. Self-improvement projects will be rewarding. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are intelligent, open-minded and progressive. You are innovative and charming.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	8			4		9		
		6		5	8			
4			1	3		7		
8			7			5		6
		2		1		4		
1		7			5			2
		3		7	9			8
			6	2		3		
		1		8			7	

Difficulty Level ★ 6/06

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's SUDOKU Answer

6	7	1	9	8	3	2	4	5
2	3	4	5	7	1	8	6	9
5	9	8	2	4	6	7	3	1
4	1	7	6	3	9	5	8	2
8	2	9	7	5	4	3	1	6
3	5	6	8	1	2	4	9	7
7	4	5	1	9	8	6	2	3
1	8	2	3	6	5	9	7	4
9	6	3	4	2	7	1	5	8

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 6/05

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

'MOTHER'S DAY' (FILM) Solution: 13 letters

K	S	U	D	E	I	K	I	S	M	A	N	D	V	I
J	R	H	S	A	N	D	Y	I	J	O	D	Y	R	N
E	E	I	A	T	E	O	T	R	B	U	R	N	O	O
N	T	S	S	Y	R	C	S	R	R	N	L	T	A	S
N	H	T	S	T	H	E	A	A	E	A	S	T	W	D
I	G	C	I	E	I	D	B	H	J	I	G	M	H	U
F	U	A	L	R	L	N	M	O	N	I	S	I	I	H
E	A	L	O	E	B	A	D	A	R	N	A	R	T	T
R	D	E	Y	Ⓐ	A	N	D	A	R	S	R	A	E	N
E	R	B	Ⓝ	S	O	H	I	N	O	S	A	N	H	A
G	O	Ⓘ	I	Z	E	L	L	A	I	R	H	D	A	H
I	Ⓣ	F	I	I	U	K	Y	N	I	T	N	A	L	P
A	C	L	P	J	S	W	A	L	K	E	R	E	L	Y
P	E	T	E	R	G	N	I	T	N	E	R	A	P	L
Y	H	T	O	M	I	T	S	R	E	H	T	O	M	O

©2016 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 6/6

Aasif, Aniston, Bradley, Britt, Burn, Caleb, Daughters, Elizondo, Ella, Garry, Hector, Henry, Hudson, Jason, Jennifer, Jesse, Jody, Julia, Kate, Kristin, Mandvi, Marshall, Martindale, Miranda, Mitchell, Mothers, Olyphant, Open Road, Paige, Parenting, Peter, Roberts, Sandy, Sarah, Shay, Sudeikis, Timothy, Tina, Tiny, Walker, Whitehall

Last Thursday's Answer: Black Sheep

To purchase **WONDERWORD** books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

1 Operation Manager $9.72/hr. and (2) Camera Operators, Television, Video and Motion Picture $6.05/hr. Mail to Saipan TV Production. PMB 272 Box 10000 Saipan.

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1 Commercial Cleaner
1 General Maintenance. 3-5 years experience with valid driver's license. Police Clearance required. Email resume to San Vicente Estates at cisco.cnmi@yahoo.com

FOR LEASE

Land for Lease: 1,670 sq. meters in San Antonio. Located very close to PIC. Call 785-0880 for more info.

NEED A JOB?
YOU'LL FIND IT HERE!
Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune
Classified Ads
235-6397

VICENTE T. SALAS, ESQ.
Law Office Of Vicente T. Salas
P.O. Box 501309, San Jose
2nd Floor, MIC Building
SAIPAN, MP 96950-1309
Telephone No. (670) 234-7455
Telecopier No. (670) 234-7256

Attorney for: Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, -vs- VINCENT A. MANGLONA, BENITA A. MANGLONA, V.B. MANGLONA ENTERPRISES, TONGA GARDENS, PASEO DRIVE INCORPORATED, GUAM ISLA LP GAS AND APPLIANCE and MOBIL OIL MICRONESIA, INC. Defendants.	CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0194-CV **NOTICE OF AUCTION**

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, CNMI Marshal, or any other person authorized by law hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Vincent A. Manglona and Benita A. Manglona in the following described, real properties situated in Rota, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Fee simple title to:

Tract No. 22102, Rota, containing an area of 25,000 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2048/77 the original of which was registered 23 APR 79 as Document No. 8162 at Land Registry, Saipan.

Tract No 22214, Rota, containing an area of 25,000 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 3017/87 the original of which was registered 28 FEB 89 as Document No. 89-0624 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

Lot No. 053 R 01, Rota, containing an area of 535 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 053 R 00 the original of which was registered 19 JAN 94 as Document No. 94-0176 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

Lot No. 001 R 07, Rota, containing an area of 836 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 R 00 the original of which was registered 21 NOV 71 as Document No. 1288 at Land Registry, Saipan.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 30, 2016,** subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. **Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**

2. Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.

3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
   a.) To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b.) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c.) To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.

4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235 7147; or to Vicente T. Salas, P.O. Box 501309, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234 7256.

5. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.

6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

7. **Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Vincent A. Manglona and Benita A. Manglona in the property and any improvements thereon are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property or its title will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.**

Dated this 31 day of May, 2016.

/s/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

AUTO MARINE INCORPORATION
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(2) Mechanic
- At least 3 yrs experience
- Must have knowledge in Boat and Auto repair

(2) Automotive Specialty Technician
- At least 3 yrs experience
- Must have knowledge in overhauling of boat and car computer box

Contact Person: Adonis Santos
Contact No.: 323-2916

BIG BELL, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(8) CARPENTER
(6) ELECTRICIAN
(8) MASON
(4) PAINTER
(6) STEELMAN

Must have 2 yrs experience
Submit application to
Big Bell Inc, Office
Koblerville, Saipan

Big Bell Inc is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Job Vacancy Announcement

4 Sales Associate–Minimum 3 years work experience.
1 Store Manager–Minimum 5 years work related experience.

Must be able to consistently demonstrate customer service. Preferably knows how to speak and read Chinese and Japanese. Flexible working hours.

1 Accountant–Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting. Minimum 5 years work experience. Proficient in MYOB/AccountEdge Premium Accounting Software, MS Word, Excel. Effective oral and written communication skills.

Applicants should mail their resume to PMB 1118 Box 10003, Saipan, MP 96950 or email saipanbest07@gmail.com. American Saipan Best Corporation dba Saipan Best Shopping Market.

Job Vacancy Announcement

(7) Cook
(4) Waiter/Waitress
(1) Restaurant Manager
Applicants should have a minimum 3 years work related experience. Must be able to consistently demonstrate good customer service, preferably knows how to speak Chinese and Japanese. Flexible working hours.

(1) Maintenance Technician
Minimum 3 years work related experience. Flexible working hours.

Please mail resume to
PMB 373 Box 10003, MP 96950 or email newsic426@gmail.com.
New Star International Corporation dba Mura Ichiban Restaurant.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com
Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE OF MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) hereby gives notice that a Board Appeals Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 7, 2016, at 3:30 p.m. in the CPA Conference Room, Second Floor of the Departure Terminal Building, at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

AGENDA

A. Preliminary Matters
   1. Call to Order
   2. Roll Call
   3. Public Comment
B. Executive (Closed) Session—Legal Issues Relating to Pending Appeal
C. Adjourn

/s/ KIMBERLYN KING-HINDS June 3, 2016
Appeals Committee Chairwoman

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISOR
Must be College Graduate with a 4-year degree & with at least 2-year experience of property management, pawnshop and real estate. Knowledgeable in real estate and drilling operations, gold acid testing and QuickBooks preferred.

BUSINESS SUPPORT SPECIALIST
College Graduate with a 4-year degree or with at least two year experience in Western Union, Real Estate, Pawnshop and Drilling business. Has excellent customer service and organizational skills and skilled in dealing with financial and numeric data.

WELL DRILLER
Minimum of 8 years experience of monitoring water well drilling & boring holes. Must have excellent knowledge & skill in well servicing & well drilling using different methods & other necessary drilling equipment, tools & machines. OSHA & HAZWOPER Certification are required.

DRILLER HELPER
Minimum of 5 years experience of assisting in water well drilling & boring holes. Must have excellent knowledge & skills in well servicing & well drilling using different methods & other necessary drilling equipment, tools & machines. OSHA & HAZWOPER certification are required.

CONSTRUCTION LABORER
Minimum of 5 years experience of performing tasks involving physical labor in well construction & real estate development projects, specializing in water well drilling projects & commercial and residential property maintenance service. OSHA & HAZWOPER certification are required.

Alexander Incorporated
Alexander Building, Beach Road,
San Jose, Saipan MP 96950
For inquiries, please call 234-5117.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

2 Carpenters – With 10 years carpentry work experience. Will perform boat carpentry and Fiberglass work on all of the company vessels. Will remove rotten wood on the vessel or the building to be replaced with new wood and to be re-painted afterwards.

4 Maintenance Repairer – Maintain dock facilities and engage on general maintenance of company vessels and vehicles. Assist company carpenters and mechanics in repairing, painting, fiberglassing job on the vessels. Assist the general manager with other related maintenance duties as needed.

4 Passenger Attendants – Assist boat customers on boarding and unloading. Service the customers for dinner cruise boat, ferry boat or fishing boat. Entertain customers while on board. Assist captain with work related duties.

Please send resume no later than
June 7, 2016 to
Saipan Sea Ventures, Inc.
P.O. Box 501808, Saipan, MP 96950
or Email to ssv@pticom.com

WHATZIT Solution: Left out in the cold

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	**$15**	**$30**
• 5-Liner	**$24**	**$45**

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Find today's solution in classified section

PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN

We are seeking for high energy individuals with a positive, can do attitude.
Pacific Islands Club, Saipan is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

(1) ACCOUNTANT
Minimum of three (3) years work experience, preferably in hospitality. Degree in accounting required. Proficient in the use of Microsoft Office (Excel) and must be knowledgeable in using Opera. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) ACCOUNTING MANAGER
Minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience plus three (3) years of supervisory experience, preferably in hospitality industry. A Bachelor's degree in Accounting or Finance from an accredited college or university is required. CPA certification is preferred; Proficient in the use of Microsoft Office (Excel, Word, PowerPoint) skills are required. Knowledge in using Opera System, MAS 90 system (General Ledger, Accounts Payable, Purchase Order, Inventory Management modules), Kronos Payroll System and Web Cash management system. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) AIR CONDITIONING AUTO MECHANIC
Minimum of four (4) years of relevant work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) ASSISTANT PASTRY COOK
Minimum of two (2) years of related experience with bread making, pastry making and cake decorating. Must have previous experience in high volume production including large banquets, functions and special events. High School Diploma or higher is required. Must be able to work early mornings, nights, weekends and holidays.

(2) ASSISTANT RESTAURANT MANAGER
Minimum of five (5) years restaurant and/or hotel food and beverage experience required, plus have a minimum of three (3) years of experience working in a supervisory role in Food & Beverage. Proficient with the use of Microsoft Office and the use of Micros point-of-sale systems. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(2) BAKER
Minimum of three (3) years of related work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) BARTENDER
Minimum one (1) year work experience; Must be at least 21 years old. Ability to speak Chinese, Korean, Russian or Japanese is preferred. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) BEVERAGE SUPERVISOR
Minimum of five (5) years of bartender experience, with at least one (1) year of supervisory experience in a similar role. Must be at least 21 years old. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(4) CARPENTER
Minimum of three (3) years work experience as a cabinet maker and finishing carpenter. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

CLUBMATES
Must have previous related work experience and must pass all American Red Cross Lifeguard requirements (including a 300 yard continuous swim test); Sports-minded individuals are encouraged to apply; Must possess good verbal and written communication skills; Korean, Japanese and/or Russian language skill is a plus; Paid training and free two year lifeguard certification course for eligible candidates; Must be able to work on evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING
Minimum of ten (10) years of Engineering industry experience managing diesel operation and repairs for a hotel plus five (5) years management experience is required. A Bachelor's degree in Engineering is required. Must possess technical knowledge and experience on 3516 and 3512 Caterpillar Generators, 85 KW aqua design desalination plants, chiller systems, pumps, filtration systems for swimming pools and reverse osmosis systems are required. Must be certified Reserve Osmosis (RO) Operator Level 2 in water treatment and Level 1 in water distribution system. Must have knowledge and experience in handling Diesel Plants and Reserve Osmosis (RO) Operations. Must have technical knowledge and experience on SMARDT Oil less and Screw type Chillers System. Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to support a 24hour business. Proficient and knowledgeable in the use of Microsoft Office (word and excel). Must be able to work in a flexible schedule which includes early mornings, evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) ELECTRONIC TECHNICAL SUPERVISOR (SPORTS, ENTERTAINMENT & ACTIVITIES DEPT.)
Minimum of five (5) years of proven experience in the electrical/electronic fields and the ability to demonstrate high proficiency in these areas is required. A thorough knowledge of electrical / electronic components and equipment including the use of special instruments for diagnostic purposes is required. Skill-level requirements vary from troubleshooting to board- or component-level repair. Willing to work any shift and overtime as required. Applicants must be versed in all aspects of the "Clubmate" position. Strong communication, interpersonal and customer service skills are essential. The position requires the ability to work under pressure and time constraints. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including early morning hours, nights, weekends and holidays.

(6) FOOD & BEVERAGE SUPERVISOR
Must have at least three (3) years related work experience in Food & Beverage service, two (2) years of supervisory experience, plus one (1) year relevant work experience in coordinating events; Supervises employees engaged in serving foods in restaurants and maintaining cleanliness of food service areas and equipment; must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(3) FOOD SERVER CAPTAIN
Minimum of 18 months related work experience, one (1) year supervisory experience required. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) GARDENER
Minimum of three (3) years of work experience. Must have working knowledge of landscaping. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) GUEST RELATIONS
Minimum of one (1) year hospitality experience. Must have the ability to solve guest concerns and cash handling. Must be able to speak, read and write in English and one or more of the following languages: Korean, Russian, Japanese or Chinese. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(1) GUEST SERVICE SUPERVISOR
Minimum of two (2) years supervisory experience plus experience driving large passenger vehicles are required. Must be at least 18 years of age, possess a valid CNMI driver's license, and pass a medical exam and substance abuse test. Must provide a traffic clearance with application. Must be able to work graveyard shifts, evenings, weekends and holidays.

(3) HOUSEKEEPING SUPERVISOR - ROOMS
Minimum of two (2) years housekeeping supervisor experience required (minimum 300-room hotel). Motivated self-starter with the ability to clean rooms as required. Responsible for checking up to 70 rooms per shift. Must have the ability to bend, lift, carry & move items weighing 50 pounds. Must be able to stand for long excess hours. Must be able to work graveyard shifts, evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGER
Minimum of five (5) years of I.T. industry experience and Bachelors degree in IT related field required. Thorough knowledge of all software and hardware is required, this includes all Microsoft Windows desktop and Server Operating Systems, Microsoft application support, Opera System, SQL 2008 administration skills, Symantec Product experience with Ghost, ACT! And corporate anti-virus software, Access database, Crystal Report XI and report design skills with IIS, ASP and HTML Skills. Linux skills and Active Directory experience is highly desirable. Experience in the use of electronic mail (mail relays, spam filters and mail integrity) and Internet protocols (e.g. TCP/IP, PPP and IMAP). Sound knowledge of routers, firewalls, network security, network configuration and construction, switches and fiber is required. Applicant should have in depth knowledge of VPN, VPN encryption, PC and server hardware, new PC and server installations, configuration and support of IP Phone Systems, System backups and general network administration. A+, Network +, and/or MCP certification are also highly desirable. Should be knowledgeable in utilizing a hotel database. Must have a thorough working knowledge of web programming and systems analysis. Must have general management ability as well as specific knowledge of the company's computer/network systems. Must be able to communicate with all department heads in the company that require computer and network systems. Must be able to translate the requirements of each department into a workable computer operation. Must keep up with new developments in computers, Networking and (VOIP) voice over IP equipment. Must have excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to support a 24hr business

(1) LANDSCAPING SUPERVISOR
Minimum of two (2) years of related work experience in a similar role working at a hotel plus two (2) years of supervisory experience in a similar role. A High School diploma or higher is required. Must be able to utilize or operate landscaping tools and equipment. Previous experience in executing landscaping-related project is required. Must be able to work in a flexible schedule which includes early mornings, evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) NIGHT AUDITOR
Minimum of five (5) years of relevant work experience and academic background with major in Accounting Business knowledge on the basic functions of debits and credits. Knowledge on hotel-related systems particularly on front-office systems and point-of-sale systems of the hotel industry. Strong knowledge of Excel and must be knowledgeable in using Opera System and Micros System; Familiarity on how the hotel settlement system works (cash, room charge, credit card transaction or similar). Must be able to work from 11:00pm to 7:00am; May involve shift work, including working on weekends and holidays.

(2) PAINTER
Minimum of three (3) years related work experience as a painter. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(2) PASTRY COOK
Minimum of two (2) years of relevant work experience working in pastry for a hotel. Associate's degree in Culinary Arts. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(2) PLUMBER
Minimum of five (5) years related work experience; Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) POOL MAINTENANCE CAPTAIN
Minimum of two (2) years related work experience working at a hotel in a similar role is required. A High School diploma or higher is required. Previous HAZMAT training is preferred. Shift begins at 2:00 a.m. daily. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(4) POWERHOUSE OPERATOR
Minimum of three (3) years related work experience. Certified Water Treatment & Distribution operator preferred. Must be a certified Class A/B UST operator. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(2) RESTAURANT MANAGER
Minimum of five (5) years restaurant and/or hotel food and beverage experience required. Minimum of two (2) years previous F&B Leadership experience required. Minimum of two (2) years of Banquet leadership role required. Previous experience in a first-class, medium to large resort preferred. This position monitors the daily operations of each restaurant function to ensure a positive guest experience and will profitably manage the overall operations of the restaurants. Will manage all service aspects of food and beverage functions in accordance with the policies of the hotel. Excellent written and oral communication skills are necessary. Must be knowledgeable of banquet set-ups, policies and procedures. Must have experience in budgeting and managing banquet operations. Must be able to successfully coordinate staff and resources in high volume, time sensitive environment. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holiday.

(4) ROOM ATTENDANT
Minimum of one (1) year of experience as a room attendant for a hotel. Motivated, self-starter responsible for cleaning up to 18 rooms per shift. Must have the ability to bend, lift, carry & move items weighing 50 pounds. Must be able to stand for long excessive hours. Must be able to work graveyard shifts, evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) SALES & MARKETING MANAGER - KOREAN MARKET
Minimum of three (3) years of hotel industry experience, plus one (1) year of Korean Market sales management experience. Must be proficient in speaking, reading and writing the English and Korean languages, and be proficient with the use of Microsoft Office. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(4) TEPPANYAKI COOK
Minimum of five (5) years of related work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Friday, June 10th, 2016.
PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance. Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered.
PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Warehouse for RENT
REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #3 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
235-6527/28 or 285-1317

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
1 Marine Sports Instructor
1 Computer Technician
1 Mechanic
With 2-3 years experience
willing to work on flexible hours.
Please send resume to
AQUATIC MARINE CO. INC.
PMB 114 Box 10002, Saipan MP 96950

Wanted - Commercial cleaner for diving business on Rota. Five years experience, high school diploma, 2 letters of recommendation from former employers and police clearance required. Minimum salary. Position starts on October 2, 2016. Call 532-3423 for interview.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
AM MACHINE SHOP
(2) Machinist
At least 3 years experience
Knowledgeable in Modifying and Fabrication of parts
Contact Person: Adonis Santos
Contact No.: 323-2916

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
2 Cook
With 2-3 years experience
Willing to work on flexible hours.
Please send resume to
JNJ CORPORATION
PMB 114 Box 10002, Saipan MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
EJM Pacific Manpower Services
Unit 106 CDA Building, Beach Rd., San Jose • Tel. 285-0649
- Cook
- Waiter/Waitress
- Housekeeping/Cleaner
- Construction Worker

Located at the same office of Pacific Accounting Services for your accounting and bookkeeping needs.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Proposed Amendment to the Official Saipan Zoning Map (Rezone)

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking your comments on the following proposed amendment (rezone) to the Official Saipan Zoning Map to include the following area in San Roque to "Tourist Resort" zoning district:

All lots situated north of the former Plumeria Resort and south of the Kensington Hotel, and westward of Chalan Pale Arnold.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: June 09, 2016
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd Fl.
Joeten Dandan Comm'l Bldg.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, June 08, 2016. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following position:

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Key Functions:
The Executive Assistant will help the Executive Officer and the President maintain organizational relationships and act as the main point of contact particularly for business partners and customers in and from China, as well as colleagues and peers in the local Chinese Community. The Executive Assistant should support the management of the President's time and calendar to ensure that the President is fully informed and prepared for all meetings with such stakeholders and to assist in organizing events. The Executive Assistant should be highly organized, able to multi-task and manage multiple time-sensitive demands, have exceptional inter-personal and communication skills and support the mission of the organization. This professional must possess a combination of strategic thinking skills and the demonstrated ability to implement and manage the daily logistical demands of a project centered staffs who work cross functionally to respond to the needs of the organization and its constituents.

Job Requirements:
Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and/or Information Technology. With excellent English and Chinese communication skills both oral and written. Must possess experience in MS Office suite. One-year related experience in administrative type functions an advantage. Service-oriented, with strong organizational skills, active listening and active learning is required. Must be open to a variety of responsibilities, changing assignments, and be an overall team player.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Tuesday, June 15, 2016.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Peter A. Cruz
Address: P.O. Box 7446 SVRB, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: 670.789.2391

Pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Cruz, Peter A. Jr. Petitioner,	)	FCD-DI CA-16-0175
vs.	)	**SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION**
Cruz, Michelle C. Respondent	)	

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 7746 SVRB, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filling your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court of this Court at P.O. Box 500307, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 28th day of April, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court

CDA Commonwealth Development Authority

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

POSITION	:	Business Development Specialist
ANNUAL SALARY	:	$25,000 - $30,000
EMPLOYMENT TERM	:	Two (2) Years, renewable
CLOSING	:	Thursday, June 16, 2016

This position is an excepted service position. The employee works under the immediate supervision of the Economic Development Analyst. Performs tasks independently but seeks additional expertise when deviation from accepted practices are identified and as directed by the Economic Development Analyst. The employee serves as technical support and may lead less experienced staff and clerical staff. Completed projects are reviewed for adherence to basic principles of business management, rational conclusions and in conformance with policy.

The employee in this class performs technical and specialized duties in the collection and evaluation of data relating to the enforcement and compliance process of the Qualifying Certificate Program. The employee is required to perform timely and competent field inspection of QC recipients and prepares comprehensive reports thereon.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Issues QC Applications and investment packets;
- Accepts, evaluates and processes applications;
- Conducts investigations for compliance and reporting;
- Maintains business relations with business organizations and government agencies for the effective delivery of the QC Program;
- Interfaces with program officials and interrelated agencies and facilities within the community to ensure that QC objectives are accomplished;
- Assists in the development and management of business promotional activities;
- Assists in communicating awareness and image of the Authority as the primary advocate of business;
- Provides support for QC Program and other CDA program objectives; and
- Performs all other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIREMENTS:
Must hold a Bachelors Degree from a U.S. accredited college or university in Business Administration, Economics, Marketing, International Business, Finance or a closely related field. Two (2) years work experience in any business related field. Copy of degree/official transcript and police clearance must be attached to the application.

SKILLS:

- Some knowledge of laws, regulations, policies and services of the Authority.
- Some knowledge of principles and practices, rules and regulations governing the QC Program.
- Ability to interpret laws, contracts, ordinances and regulations.
- Make sound decisions, recommendations, and formulate solutions consistent with QC Program, its policies and procedures.
- Manage, and direct less experienced professional and clerical staff under his/her leadership.
- Ability to effectively communicate orally and in writing with QC recipients, management, other employees and the general public.
- Ability to work exceptionally well with management, counsels, fellow employees and the general public.
- Ability to perform financial calculation and interpret the same.
- Ability to maintain records and produce reports.
- Exhibit a "self-starting" approach to work.
- Possesses strong management skills.
- Possesses good computer skills in word processing, spreadsheets and desktop publishing.
- Evaluate and formulate solutions to complex situations.

For more information, please check "JOB OPPORTUNITIES" on our website at www.developmentcnmi.com

INTERESTED APPLICANTS SHOULD SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATION FORMS TO:
Office of Personnel Management
PO Box 5153 CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950

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Duties:

- Review loan agreements to ensure that they are complete and accurate according to policy.
- Approve, reject, or coordinate the approval or rejection of lines of credit or commercial, real estate, or personal loans.
- Analyze applicants' financial status, credit, and property evaluations to determine feasibility of granting loans.
- Review collection reports to determine the status of collections and the amounts of outstanding balances.
- Set credit policies, credit lines, procedures and standards in conjunction with senior managers.
- Oversee the flow of cash or financial instruments.
- Prepare financial or regulatory reports required by laws, regulations, or boardsof directors.
- Develop or analyze information to assess the current or future financial status of firms.
- Evaluate financial reporting systems, accounting or collection procedures, or investment activities and make recommendations for changes to procedures, operating systems, budgets, or other financial control functions.
- Establish procedures for custody or control of assets, records, loan collateral, or securities to ensure safekeeping.
- Plan, direct, and coordinate risk and insurance programs of establishments to control risks and losses.

Education/Experience:

- Bachelor's Degree in Finance, Business Administration or Accounting and 2 years' experience in Finance will be a plus. Salary will be discussed upon interview.

Interested candidates are requested to submit their resumes or pick up an employment application at
Champion Finance, 3rd floor, Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 316-B
or email championfinancecnmi@gmail.com

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 670-234-7859 • Fax: 670-234-5749
Attorney for Petitioner: Darsha Dez'Rae Camacho

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: **ANTHONY MENDIOLA CAMACHO, aka: "Tonnei"., Decedent.**	**Civil Action No. 16-0094-CV** **NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION and NOTICE TO CREDITORS** **Date: June 21, 2016** **Time:9:00 A.M.** **Judge: Hon. Kenneth L. Govendo**

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE ANTHONY MENDIOLA CAMACHO OR OF HIS ESTATE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner, **Darsha Dez'Rae Camacho**, has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to issue Letters of Administration for the **Estate of Anthony Mendiola Camacho, Decedent.** The attorney for Petitioner is **Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.**

The hearing on the Petition for Letters of Administration by Darsha Dez'Rae Camacho, as Petitioner, is scheduled to be heard on **June 21, 2016** at **9:00 am**, at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, *Guma' Hustisia*, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors or entities having claims against the Decedent or his estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within Sixty (60) days of the first publication, or the claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to **ROBERT TENORIO TORRES, Attorney at Law at the address herein-above indicated.**

Dated this 17th day of May, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court
Deputy Clerk of Court

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

INVITATION FOR BIDS

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)
BID SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 20, 2016 * TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2016-013

"Building Maintenance of NMHC's Housing Units in Rota (30 units)"

Governor Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Governor Victor Hocog, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, are hereby giving notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids for the Building Maintenance of NMHC's Housing Units in Rota.

Interested individuals or firms may pick up a copy of the Project Package beginning Friday, May 27, 2016, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, or at the Rota Field Office during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the NMHC Rota Field Office on **Thursday, June 09, 2016, at 9:00 a.m.** Bidders will have the opportunity to tour the housing subdivisions and inspect several housing units owned by NMHC that will be covered under the proposed contract. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder. Inquiries regarding this solicitation must be addressed in writing to the NMHC Corporate Director at P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than 9:00 a.m., Monday, June 13, 2016.

NMHC reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in the bids if determined to be in its best interest. All bids received shall become the property of the Commonwealth Government.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

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Benefits Include: Sick leave, paid vacation, Holiday pay, employee discounts, medical, dental and group life insurance. Please apply in person at: Moylans Insurance office located on Beach Road in Garapan. Deadline to submit: 5pm June 9, 2016.
No phone calls please.

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For final farewell, Ali will draw world to his hometown

AP
Boxing gloves and a message sit among flowers at a makeshift memorial to Muhammad Ali at the Muhammad Ali Center, Saturday, June 4, 2016, in Louisville, Ky. Muhammad Ali died Friday at age 74.

BOXING

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—Muhammad Ali crafted the plan for his final tribute years ago, long before he died. On Friday, his family will honor him just like he planned, with a global celebration in his hometown.

A procession will carry his body down an avenue in Louisville that bears his name, through his boyhood neighborhood and down Broadway, the scene of the parade that honored the brash young man - then known as Cassius Clay - for his gold medal at the 1960 Olympics.

A day after Ali died at age 74 from complications of Parkinson's disease, a family spokesman outlined plans for Ali's funeral as people from Manila to Louisville to his adopted home of Arizona mourned the boxing great's passing.

The family "certainly believes that Muhammad was a citizen of the world ... and they know that the world grieves with him," spokesman Bob Gunnell said at a news conference in Scottsdale, not far from Ali's home in his final years.

Family members will accompany Ali's remains to Louisville within the next two days. A private funeral will be held Thursday.

After the Friday procession, a memorial service open to the public will be held at the KFC YUM! Center. Eulogists will include former President Bill Clinton, comedian Billy Crystal—who has done a masterful impression of Ali - and sports television host Bryant Gumbel.

The ceremony will be led by an imam in the Muslim tradition but include representatives of other faiths. Utah Sen. Orrin Hatch will represent Mormons.

"Muhammad Ali was clearly the people's champion," Gunnell said, "and the celebration will reflect his devotion to people of all races, religions and backgrounds."

The spokesman said Ali died in Arizona at 9:10 p.m. Friday local time of "septic shock due to unspecified natural causes," three decades after being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease.

It is not clear what specifically caused the septic shock. However, difficulty swallowing is among complications of Parkinson's disease and it can worsen at the end of life. It makes eating and drinking difficult and patients are at risk for aspirating food or liquids into their lungs, leading to pneumonia and a chest infection that in weakened patients can lead to sepsis - a bloodstream infection that can in turn cause organ failure and death.

Ali was mourned around the globe Saturday, and in his hometown, not even pouring rain could stop the tributes for "The Greatest."

In the three-time heavyweight champion's old neighborhood, brother Rahaman Ali stood in a small house on Grand Avenue and dabbed his eyes as he shook hand after hand. The visitors had come from as far away as Georgia and as near as down the street.

"God bless you all," the 72-year-old Rahaman said to each.

Ali's death held special meaning in Louisville, where he was the city's favorite son.

"He was one of the most honorable, kindest men to live on this planet," his brother said while greeting mourners at their childhood home, recently renovated and turned into a museum.

Cars lined both sides of the street. Visitors piled flowers and boxing gloves around the marker designating it a historical site. They were young and old, black and white, friends and fans.

Another memorial grew outside the Muhammad Ali Center downtown, a museum built in tribute to Ali's core values: respect, confidence, conviction, dedication, charity, spirituality.

By mid-afternoon, nearly 3,000 people had come through the doors, said Donald Lassere, the center's president and CEO. The center would typically draw about 500 visitors on a rainy Saturday, he said.

"Muhammad Ali belongs to the world," Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer said at a memorial service outside Metro Hall. "But he only has one hometown."

Rahaman recalled what Ali was like as a boy named Cassius Marcellus Clay Jr., long before he became the most famous man in the world, celebrated as much for his grace and his words as his lightning-fast feet and knockout punch.

In their little pink house in Louisville's west end, the brothers liked to wrestle and play cards and shoot hoops.

"He was a really sweet, kind, loving, giving, affectionate, wonderful person," Rahaman said, wearing a cap that read "Ali," the last letter formed by the silhouette of a boxer ready to pounce.

When he was 12, Ali had a bicycle that was stolen and he told a police officer he wanted to "whoop" whoever took it, Fischer said. The officer told him he'd have to learn how to box first.

Daniel Wilson Sr. was one year behind Ali at Central High School and remembered he was so committed to his conditioning that he didn't get on the school bus like everybody else. Instead, he ran along beside it, three miles all the way to school each morning.

"The kids on the bus would be laughing and Ali would be laughing too," he recalled at the Grand Avenue home.

Jerry West, LeBron, Curry reflect on Ali at NBA Finals

NBA

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—When Jerry West went to Rome with the U.S. basketball team for the 1960 Olympics, the basketball star got to know a promising young boxer on the rise named Cassius Clay.

He was not yet the world heavyweight champion, the social activist, the global icon he would later become as Muhammad Ali. But even in those early days, West could feel the magnetism of a young man destined for greatness.

"I had heard of him a little bit, this kind of teenage sensation," West said Saturday, a day after Ali died. "Once you got there, my goodness, you could hear him coming from a mile away.

"A big smile, big personality, even then before he became a world champion. He was a magnificent person."

The NBA plans to honor Ali with a moment of silence before Game 2 of the NBA Finals between the Golden State Warriors and Cleveland Cavaliers on Sunday. The tribute also will likely include a short video or photo montage.

West, LeBron James and Stephen Curry joined the legion offering remembrances and paying homage Saturday.

"When an icon like Muhammad Ali passes away, it's very emotional," James said. "It's also gratifying to know that a guy, one man, would sacrifice so much in his individual life knowing that it would better the next generation of men and women after him.

"Today I can go to China and all over the world and people know my name and know my face. I give all credit to Muhammad Ali because he was the first icon. He is the GOAT. He's the greatest of all time and it has zero to do with his accomplishments inside the ring."

West is a big boxing fan, and the former Los Angeles Lakers great saw Ali fight in person several times. But more than his boxing skills, West said he grew to admire Ali's fearlessness in attacking social issues that he felt needed to be changed.

"Certain people are courageous. He was very courageous in doing what no other athlete probably would have dared to have done, in particular a black athlete at that time," West said. "To me, he's inspired the people to look at inequalities in this world and I think some of the things he did, he just changed the perceptions of people. He was a magnificent person. I loved that guy. I really did."

Curry said he always admired how Ali used his status and popularity as an athlete to speak passionately about what he believed in.

"Ali was the example of how you use your platform and speak what you believe no matter what people will say," Curry said, "and (I) look at him (with) a sense of confidence in that regard, for sure."

Cavs looking for more ball movement in Game 2

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—As gifted as LeBron James and Kyrie Irving are with the ball in their hands and one defender to beat, that is not what got the Cleveland Cavaliers to a second straight NBA Finals.

The Cavs are at their best when the ball is humming around the perimeter, forcing defenses to scramble and creating open looks from 3-point range when one just happens to be a step slow closing out.

The ball movement and 3-point shooting ground to a halt in Game 1 of the rematch against Golden State, with the Warriors swallowing the Cavaliers up with a switch-everything defense.

A day after the dispiriting 104-89 defeat, the Cavaliers spoke about the need for injecting that movement and energy back into their offense while also acknowledging that the defending champions make that task exceedingly difficult to execute.

The Warriors' versatility allows them to switch pick-and-rolls and rotate on defense better than any team in the league. And even though James and Irving are potent off the dribble and attacking the basket, they would much rather see the Cavaliers isolate the two stars on one side of the floor rather than have them swing the ball from side to side to spread the defense and get open looks for all their 3-point shooters.

"There is a fine line," James said Friday. "I'm okay with us having some isolation basketball if we're going quick. But we're holding the ball and we're just staring down the defense and we're staring down the ball, then it can become a problem for us."

That's exactly how the Warriors managed to claw their way back from a 3-1 deficit in the Western Conference finals against Oklahoma City. They found a way to force Thunder stars Russell Westbrook and Kevin Durant into a take-your-turn approach on offense, and you could see the physical toll it took on them down the stretch.

Muguruza stuns Serena in finals, gets first Slam title

AP

Spain's Garbine Muguruza returns the ball to Australia's Samantha Stosur during their semifinal match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium, Friday, June 3, 2016 in Paris.

PARIS (AP)—The day before the French Open final, Serena Williams' coach, Patrick Mouratoglou, was discussing whether his player would need to lift her level to beat Garbine Muguruza and collect a record-equaling 22nd Grand Slam title.

"I don't know why everybody's so impressed with Garbine," Mouratoglou said. "Did she win a Slam ever?"

His comment, accompanied by a chuckle, was intended in a lighthearted way. About 24 hours later, his question required a new answer.

Muguruza won her first major trophy and prevented Williams yet again from collecting No. 22, outplaying the defending champion in a 7-5, 6-4 victory at Roland Garros on Saturday.

"She has a bright future, obviously," said Williams, who at 34 is 12 years older than her Spanish opponent. "She knows how to play on the big stage and ... clearly, she knows how to win Grand Slams."

The fourth-seeded Muguruza used her big groundstrokes to keep No. 1 Williams off-balance and overcame signs of nerves in the form of nine double-faults. Most impressively, Muguruza broke Williams four times, including three in a row.

"I can't explain with words what this day means to me," Muguruza said.

This was her second major final; she lost to Williams at Wimbledon last year. But Muguruza has won her past two matches against Williams on the clay of Roland Garros, including in the second round in 2014. So dating to the start of the 2013 French Open, Williams is 0-2 in Paris against Muguruza, 21-0 against everyone else.

"They key? I just have a very aggressive game," said Muguruza, whose three career tournament titles are 67 fewer than Williams' total. "I go for my shots with no regrets."

For Williams, whose timing was not exactly right much of the afternoon, Saturday's loss postponed her pursuit of Steffi Graf's Open-era mark of 22 major singles championships. Margaret Court holds the all-time record of 24.

Williams got No. 21 at Wimbledon in 2015, her fourth major in a row. Since, she was beaten in the U.S. Open semifinals by Roberta Vinci, in the Australian Open final by Angelique Kerber, and now by Muguruza. It's the first time in Williams' career she lost back-to-back Slam finals.

Mouratoglou said Saturday that chasing a 22nd major "isn't an obsession" for Williams.

"She doesn't wake up every morning thinking about it. That's for sure," he said, then added: "The pressure of leaving an indelible mark on history is incomparable."

Williams credited Muguruza with playing "unbelievable," adding: "The only thing I can do is just keep trying."

This year's visit to Paris hardly could have started off more inauspiciously for Muguruza: She lost the first set she played, against 38th-ranked Anna Karolina Schmiedlova.

But, oh, how Muguruza turned things around. She won her next 14 sets with take-the-ball-early fearlessness.

The final began under a slate ceiling of clouds, but at least there was none of the rain that flooded Paris temporary shut down the Louvre museum. The showers jumbled the tournament schedule, and Williams was in action a fourth straight day in the final.

She did not blame that or a problem with a leg muscle.

Muguruza won the coin toss and let Williams serve first, a fascinating choice given the American's prowess with that part of the game. And the decision seemed only more dubious as Muguruza put the ball on play on only one of the first six points Williams served.

And yet, it all wound up working out. And how.

"I proved to myself that I can play really well, that I can manage my stress," Muguruza said, "and win against one of the best players in the world."

Muguruza won all six points of 10 shots or more in the first set and, indeed, there was no junkballing on this day. Both women hit hard, trading bold forehands and backhands from the baseline that made it seem unfair to characterize nearly anything as an "unforced error."

Williams finished with 39 forced errors, 18 more than Muguruza.

Tigers beat Sale, Chisox; Coats hurt

DETROIT (AP)—J.D. Martinez homered and drove in three runs, Mike Pelfrey ended an 18-start winless string and the Detroit Tigers beat Chris Sale and the Chicago White Sox 7-4 Saturday.

During the game, the White Sox announced they had acquired former All-Star pitcher James Shields and cash from San Diego for two players.

White Sox left fielder Jason Coats, making his major league debut, exited in the seventh inning after colliding with center fielder J.B. Shuck. Coats was bleeding from a cut in his mouth, was tested for a concussion and was listed as day to day.

Indians 7, Royals 1

In Cleveland, Francisco Lindor hit one of Cleveland's three home runs, leading the Indians into first place in the AL Central with a win over the Kansas City Royals.

Lindor, whose two-run homer came in the seventh inning, became the first Indians player to record three extra-base hits in a game this season.

Dodgers 4, Braves 0

In Los Angeles, Clayton Kershaw held Atlanta to three hits over six innings and Los Angeles' bullpen closed things out to help the Dodgers beat the Braves.

Kershaw (8-1) struck out four and walked one in his shortest outing of the season. Joe Blanton, Pedro Baez and Kenley Jansen pitched an inning each.

Cubs 5, Diamondbacks 3

In Chicago, Jason Hammel allowed one hit over seven innings and snapped a tie with a two-run single to lead the sizzling Chicago Cubs past the Arizona Diamondbacks.

Dexter Fowler added his 17th career leadoff home run, Anthony Rizzo hit his 13th homer and Hector Rondon pitched a perfect ninth to earn his 10th save for the Cubs.

Reds 6, Nationals 3

In Cincinnati, Stephen Strasburg gave up Joey Votto's two-run homer and limped off the field a few pitches later, and the Cincinnati Reds overcame a pair of rain delays while rallying to beat the Washington Nationals for their fourth straight win.

Adam Duvall hit Shawn Kelley's fourth pitch for a tiebreaking three-run homer following a 64-minute rain delay in the bottom of the eighth, extending Cincinnati's best winning streak of the season.

Astros 6, Athletics 5, 12 innings

In Houston, Carlos Correa had three hits and his RBI single with one out in the 12th lifted the Houston Astros over the Oakland Athletics.

After Jed Lowrie hit a tying home run with two outs in the ninth for Oakland, the Astros came back to win.

Mets 6, Marlins 4

In Miami, Michael Conforto ended an 0-for-20 skid with an RBI single in the eighth and scored the tiebreaking run on pinch hitter Matt Reynolds' two-out single later in the inning to help the New York Mets rally past the Miami Marlins.

Conforto also hit a sacrifice fly in the sixth.

Brewers 6, Phillies 3

In Philadelphia, Domingo Santana hit a tiebreaking solo homer in the eighth inning, Jonathan Villar went deep for the third straight game and the Milwaukee Brewers beat the Philadelphia Phillies.

Santana connected off Hector Neris (1-3) leading off the eighth for his fourth homer and first since returning from the disabled list on Friday.

Pirates 8, Angels 7

In Pittsburgh, Gregory Polanco and Matt Joyce hit home runs during a five-run seventh inning, Jeff Locke got his career-best fourth straight win and the Pittsburgh Pirates held off the Los Angeles Angels.

Locke (5-3) gave up three runs and seven hits in seven innings.

Red Sox 6, Blue Jays 4

In Boston, David Ortiz added two more RBI to his torrid start in what he says will be his final season, Mookie Betts had two hits and drove in two runs and the Boston Red Sox beat the Toronto Blue Jays.

The 40-year-old Ortiz entered the day leading the majors in RBI and raised his total to 53, helping Boston snap a three-game losing streak.

Rays 7, Twins 4

In Minneapolis, Evan Longoria homered for the third straight game, and Matt Andriese worked five innings in a rain-shortened start to pick up his fourth win as the Tampa Bay Rays beat the Minnesota Twins.

Longoria's fifth-inning home run was one of four for the Rays on the cloudy day, and the second of three allowed by Twins starter Ervin Santana (1-5).

Yankees 8, Orioles 6

In Baltimore, Starlin Castro and Austin Romine each had two RBI, Alex Rodriguez had three hits and the New York Yankees squandered most of a seven-run lead before escaping with a victory over the Baltimore Orioles.

Giants 5, Cardinals 1

In St. Louis, Johnny Cueto worked around a season-worst five walks to post his ninth win, tying for the major league lead, as the San Francisco Giants beat the St. Louis Cardinals.

Rangers 10, Mariners 4

In Arlington, Elvis Andrus homered, Rougned Odor scored twice in his return from a seven-game suspension for punching Jose Bautista and the Texas Rangers beat the Seattle Mariners.

Odor got a standing ovation when introduced before his first at-bat. He was reinstated before the game after serving Major League Baseball's penalty for slugging Toronto's right fielder in the testy home game May 15.

Padres 4, Rockies 3

In San Diego, Wil Myers homered, singled and doubled, missing the cycle by a triple for the second time in four games, and Derek Norris hit a two-run homer to lead the San Diego Padres past the Colorado Rockies.

Colombia scores 2 first-half goals, beats US in Copa opener

AP

United States forward Gyasi Zerdes, bottom, falls in front of Colombia defender Jeison Murillo (22) in the second half during a Copa America Centenario Group A soccer match at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, Calif., Friday, June 3, 2016. Colombia won, 2-0.

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP)—The United States would have preferred a far better first impression in the Copa America opener.

Now, the Americans find themselves under the pressure of needing to win.

Cristian Zapata scored his first international goal, James Rodriguez added a 42nd-minute penalty kick and Colombia beat the United States 2-0 Friday night.

"It's obviously disappointing and frustrating because I think they were there for the taking," defender Geoff Cameron said. "You want to get into the tournament with some momentum. ... We have two more opportunities to win out. You can't dwell on it."

U.S. coach Jurgen Klinsmann spoke about the importance of a strong showing in this special edition 100th anniversary Copa to create buzz for a potential 2026 World Cup bid. Instead, the 31st-ranked Americans began the biggest tournament at home since the 1994 World Cup with a dud as new FIFA President Gianni Infantino watched among the announced sellout crowd of 67,439.

"We always were maybe a step or two too late," midfielder Jermaine Jones said.

Cameron lost his mark on the first goal, and following a turnover by U.S. captain Michael Bradley, DeAndre Yedlin left a raised arm that led to a hand ball call and Rodriguez's penalty kick. Colombia attacked at every chance, with Carlos Bacca putting a shot of the crossbar in the 77th minute.

"That penalty decision was a major point in this game. But it is what it is, you cannot change it anymore," said Klinsmann, who considered "we were absolutely even" aside from two hard-luck goals.

The Americans will look to rebound on Tuesday against Costa Rica at Chicago. They close their group stage four days later against Paraguay at Philadelphia.

"Now the response has to be strong and the mentality has to be right," Bradley said.

Clint Dempsey, a 33-year-old veteran of three World Cups, had the three best U.S. chances in the Americans' first Copa appearance in nine years.

"Clint was a warrior out there giving everything he had," Klinsmann said. "He was really fighting that fight very positively `til the very last second, so we wish that one goes in then you build on that one."

Klinsmann started eight players who appeared in the 2014 World Cup, joined by forwards Gyasi Zardes and Bobby Wood plus World Cup backup goalkeeper Brad Guzan. Trying to spark the attack, he put in 17-year-old Christian Pulisic and Darlington Nagbe in the 66th minute.

Thousands of yellow-clad fans at $1.3 billion Levi's Stadium chanted "Co-lom-bia! Co-lom-bia!"

"It was absolutely beautiful to see all the yellow jerseys and all the red jerseys," Klinsmann said.

Rodriguez came down hard on his left shoulder in the second half after tripping over Bradley, and Rodriguez exited in the 73rd minute.

"I don't want to think the worst about James, but we will have to wait until the medical staff says otherwise," Colombia coach Jose Pekerman said. "I won't say this was a perfect example of their ability, but the U.S. team has evolved from what we saw in Brazil."

Ecuador 0, Brazil 0

Neymar showed up at the Rose Bowl for Brazil's Copa America opener against Ecuador, but was unable to influence his teammates from his luxury suite.

Playing without its star attacker, Brazil was held to a scoreless draw with Ecuador on Saturday night in the Copa America opener for both teams at the Rose Bowl.

"We have to get better but watching the game we were only missing the score," Brazil coach Dunga said. "The way we played, being our first game and playing against a good team, was well."

Neymar skipped the tournament because he didn't have permission from Barcelona to play in both Copa America as well as the Olympics in Rio in August.

Peru 1, Haiti 0

Paolo Guerrero scored and Peru dodged a chance in stoppage time to hold on for a 1-0 victory over Haiti on Saturday night in their Group B opener in Copa America.

Guerrero—the leading scorer of the last two Copa America tournaments—found the back of the net with a diving header, off the bending feed from Edison Flores, from the top of the 6-yard box in the 61st minute.

Paraguay 0, Costa Rica 0

Paraguay and Costa Rica tied 0-0 on Saturday night in Copa America in their Group A opener at Camping World Stadium.

Justo Villar was in goal for Paraguay, and Patrick Pemberton for Costa Rica.

Costa Rica's Kendall Waston was sent off in the 94th minute for a reckless tackle on Nelson Valdez.

OL'ACES

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Thursday, the Ol'Aces eased past Ali'i Blue Haus, 104-84, to move closer to the championship.

In the second game, Ali'i Blue Haus threatened to even up the series as it sliced the Ol'Aces' 9-point lead, 77-68, to one, 80-81. Ali'i Blue Haus made one final push in the last five minutes of the match, outgunning the Ol'Aces, 12-4, with Ivan Devero knocking in 6 points, Manolo Manalo adding 3, and Elmer Esdrelon starting the rally with a triple.

In that spurt, Devero had a chance to tie the match at 81-all, but his short jumper rimmed out, while Manalo also bungled an opportunity to equalize when he split his charity.

After Manalo hit his second free throw and Ali'i Blue Haus trimmed the deficit to a hair, the Ol'Aces sued for time and when the game resumed, Jack Lizama unloaded a baseline jumper, but missed. Esdrelon and Barbo went for the offensive rebound, but neither managed to control the rebound, while Douglas Schmidt was at the right place and at the time, as the ball dropped in front of him for the point-blanked shot that gave the Ol'Aces more breathing room, 83-80.

A quick banked shot from Barbo on the other end kept Ali'i Blue Haus in the game, however he committed a bad foul on the other end, bringing down his team's chances to steal the win. Barbo was whistled for an unsportsmanlike foul on Schmidt, who was about to lose his defender on a dribble when the Ali'i Blue Haus big man hung on to the latter's jersey.

Schmidt made the two shots after Barbo's infraction for the Ol'Aces' 88-82 lead. The eventual champions were also given the possession and Dan Barcinas, with the Ali'i Blue Haus' defense still disorganized after the tough luck that hit Barbo, went for an easy drive to make it an 8-point advantage. The scores did not change, as Ali'i Blue Haus missed on the other end and the Ol'Aces melted the clock down.

Schmidt paced the Ol'Aces in Game 1 with his 31 points and he also top-scored for his squad in Game 1, logging 23.

Lizama, Barcinas, and Pelisamen combined for 41 points for the Ol'Aces in their easy win in the series opener, breaking the game wide open in the third quarter, 81-63.

Ali'i Blue Haus seemed ready to bounce back in Game 2 to force a rubber match as it led in the majority of the first half before a series of errors late in the second canto gave the Ol'Aces the momentum. Ali'i Blue Haus was still ahead, 33-28, when the Ol'Aces' anticipated the former's entry passes and forced turnovers, which the eventual champions converted into fastbreak plays. Pelisamen had 6 straight points off those errant feeds and the Ol'Aces ended the half with a 49-45 lead.

It was a seesaw battle in the second half with Barbo, Esdrelon, and Manalo holding the forth for Ali'i Blue Haus, but in the end Schmidt and company showed poise to close the series.

Game 2

Ol'Aces 90 — Schmidt 31, Pelisamen 21, Barcinas 16, Lizama 8, Rabauliman 4, Deleon Guerrero 4, Basa 3.

Ali'i Blue Haus 82 — Barbo 19, Esdrelon 17, Manalo 14, Peredo 8, Devero 6, De Dios 6, Capalad 5, Guiab 2.

Scoring by quarters: 22-25, 49-45, 70-66, 90-82.

Game 1

Ol'Aces 104 — Schmidt 23, Lizama 17, Barcinas 13, Pelisamen 11, Basa 9, Pua 6, Villacrusis 4, Babauta 2.

Ali'i Blue Haus 84 — Fernando 14, Esdrelon 12, Devero 13, Manalo 9, Barbo 9, Demapan 6, Berline 2.

Scoring by quarters: 27-19, 52-40, 81-63, 104-84.

CNMI

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clocked in at 5:30.83 in the 1,500m race last Friday to place behind Guam's Emma Sheedy (5:20.27). Elizabeth Quintanilla, also from Guam, rounded out the Top 3 after posting 5:36.72. In the 800m run last Saturday, Kaga made it to the finish line at the 2:37.46 mark for her second podium finish. Sheedy also ruled the shorter event with her 2:27.69, while teammate Kaitlynn Calma came in at third (2:43.14).

In the relays, Sapong, Bernadette Horey, Pinyarat Shankweiller, and Chloe Salvosa timed in at 4:51.28 and 55.54 seconds in the 4x400m and 4x100m relays, respectively, to win the bronze medals.

FALCONS

From Page 28

before gambling on sprinting home and paying the price as he was tagged out by Fejeran.

The championship loss against the Falcons was the Comets' second game in two days as they dueled the Enforcers last Saturday and won, 9-3, to take the second and last finals ticket. The Falcons also defeated the Enforcers last week to advance to the finals first.

In the winner-take-all title match, neither team was willing to give in, as no squad managed to hit the board in the first five innings. The Comets had their best chance to score at the top of the third when Aurel Mendiola singled, made it to second off the Falcons' error, and stole third with two outs. However, he was left stranded when Ethan Babauta flied out at shortstop.

The Falcons, on the other handed, reached third base three times in the first five innings, but were repeatedly frustrated by the Comets defense and Mendiola, who pitched in 6.3 innings before being relieved by Babauta late in the game. Mendiola had five strike outs, walked two, and allowed only two hits.

The Falcons then ended their silence with a three-run bottom of the sixth and held their ground on defense in the seventh for the fitting finale.

Saipan Tropical Ekiden Relay Race

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Japanese runners pose for a group photo at the starting line of Saipan Tropical Ekiden Relay Race at the Garapan Fishing Base last Saturday.

Joel Fruit, third left, receives the sash from Ryu Tanzawa, while other runners wait for their teammates.

Cesar Danao nears the start/finish line.

Three runners are in a close race to the start/finish line.

Two runners head to the start/finish line to tag their teammates.

An Agape Christian School runner passes the sash to his teammate.

Ayumi Kaga, left, gestures to her daughter Coume to turn in the sash before the former heads out to the course.

CNMI men's national football team coach Kiyoshi Sekiguchi, left, leads Team No. 7.

Runners wait for their turn to head up the northern side of the course.

For final farewell, Ali will draw world to his hometown

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Sports

Muguruza stuns Serena in finals, gets first Slam title

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3 more gold medals for CNMI

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI collected three more gold medals in the last two days of the 2016 Micronesian Athletics Championship in Pohnpei, bringing its total to seven, four silvers, and three bronzes.

Zarinae Sapong, Jerald Castillo, Nick Gross handed the Commonwealth the gold medals after prevailing in their respective events.

Sapong, who topped the women's open 100m run in Day 1 of the competition, added another gold last Saturday when she ruled the 200m race. She clocked in at 27.87 seconds to beat Pohnpei's Lerissa Henry (27. 97 seconds), Chuuk's Sinsina Kau (29.31 seconds), the Marshall Islands' Ilania Keju (29.77 seconds), and Chuuk's Maria Carmella Robert (30.14 seconds).

The Marianas High School graduate also competed in the women's Open 400m run last Friday and earned the silver medal after submitting 1:03.46. Guam's Maria Ollet (1:03.46) took the gold, while Pohnpei's Reloliza Saimon (1:10.26) claimed the bronze.

Sapong's fellow MHS student—Castillo—got his second gold (his first was in the 100m run last Thursday) last Saturday after winning the U18 200m run in 23.93 seconds. He was the only runner to break the 24-second barrier as runners-up Mitchell Marrino and Micah Ohli of Pohnpei logged 24.26 and 24.29 seconds, respectively. Palau's Adolph Demei Jr. (24.84 seconds) and Keilan Kenny (27.03 seconds) were the other participants in the 200m run.

In the men's javelin, Gross defeated eight other entries, including teammate Benjamin Jones. Gross registered 43.97m to prevail against Pohnpei's Herney Ringlen (43.34m) and Daniel Ekiek (40.58). Jones had 33.63m to rank ninth.

Meanwhile, 13-year-old Conatsu Kaga gave the CNMI two more silver medals, while the Commonwealth women's team bagged bronze medals in the 4x100m and 4x400m relay races.

Kaga was the runner-up in both the women's U18 1,500m and 800m runs. The youngest participant in the three-day competition

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KASELEHLIE PRESS
The CNMI's Nick Gross competes in the men's javelin throw event in the 2016 Micronesian Athletics Championships last Friday in Pohnpei.

Falcons soar past Comets in finale

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Talaabwogh Falcons outsteadied the Comets in the homestretch to pull off a 3-0 win in their title game in the Senior League division of the 2016 Saipan Little League Baseball yesterday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Rich Atalig pitched the Falcons to the finals win, as he worked the mound without relief in seven innings, allowed only four hits, and struck out seven. He was also instrumental in the game's last out that served as a perfect ending to the Falcons' domination in the Senior League.

The Falcons pitcher picked up the ball leftfielder Kobe Lifoifoi threw and then lobbed it to the waiting hands of catcher Don Fejeran, who tagged out Kody Omengkar. The big defensive stop came after the Falcons failed to field a single from N-nes Siech, whose shot headed just about in between the first and second base. Second baseman Jay Kalen stretched to catch the ball, but missed it. Lifoifoi then moved in and picked it up, but his throw intended to home plate was short. Atalig, who saw Omengkar sprinting from third base, got the ball and then lobbed it to Fejeran for the tag out at the top of the seventh inning.

Earlier at the bottom of the sixth, an RBI single from Kekuni Kainoa broke the Falcons' silence. Kainoa also reached off Fejeran's RBI single, while Ace Evangelista scored from the Comets' error for the 3-0 lead, going into the final inning.

In the last inning, the Comets were called for the two quick outs with Austin Indalecio going down on a 5-3 play and Atalig fanning out Kody Babauta. With the Falcons closing in to the championship, the Comets got a breather in the ensuing play, as Omengkar advanced after third baseman Henry Aguon fumbled and was too late for a throw to first base. Omengkar went on to move to second off Atalig's passed ball and then ran to third after Siech's shot

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Falcons' Don Fejeran, right, catches a pass from pitcher Rich Atalig, right, to tag out the Comets' Kody Omengkar for the title-winning defensive stop at top of the seventh inning of the Senior League division finals in the SLLB yesterday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield. The Falcons won, 3-0.

Ol' Aces sweep Ali'I Blue Haus

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Ol'Aces swept the short finals series in the 2016 Island-wide Men's Basketball League after earning contrasting wins in Games 1 and 2 against Ali'i Blue Haus.

The Elias Rangamar-coached Ol'Aces finished the best-of-three title showdown after pulling off a 90-82 victory in Game 2 last Saturday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. In Game 1 last

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Ol'Aces' Douglas Schmidt loses his balance as he drives and draws a foul on Ali'i Blue Haus' Junar Guiab during the fourth quarter of Game 2 of their title series in the island-wide caging last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.